

SCAN

MCDERMOTT PLANS TO LEAVE LIVERPOOL

SHOOT!

20p

WE PICK GREENWOOD'S SQUAD FOR ITALY

3rd MAY, 1980

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH WEST GERMANY CAPTAIN BERNARD DIETZ



Australia — 45c; New Zealand — 45c; South Africa — 45c; Malaysia — \$1.50; Italy — L.900; Denmark — Kr.6.00; Canada — 60c.

GOALKEEPERS

Ray Clemence . . . 46 caps

Although Ron Greenwood has rightly been alternating Clemence and Shilton this season, when he selects his team to play Belgium on June 12th Clemence will probably get the nod. Having half of the Liverpool back-four in the defence is obviously an advantage for Clemence, whose consistency is such that we take it for granted.

Peter Shilton . . . 31 caps

Had an uncharacteristic poor spell halfway through the season, while for his country he has shown the form that must make the England manager embarrassed to leave him out. Like Forest, Shilton has not been quite so impressive as in 1978/79, although there is no

WHEN England manager Ron Greenwood names his squad of 22 for the European Championship Finals, there will be few surprises. Greenwood's squads have had a samey look about them ever since he took over and it is this continuity, as he calls it, that has made England F.C. such a happy and effective unit. We believe 18 of the players we have selected are certs: just four places remain open. Here we take a closer look at the men who will most likely be . . .

THE ENGLAND STARS READY TO CONQUER EUROPE



EUROPEAN
CHAMPIONSHIP



Phil Thompson . . . 20 caps

Ron Greenwood will be hoping neither Thompson nor Dave Watson is injured between now and the European Championship as adequate replacements aren't available. While England have a lot of options in other positions, there is a shortage of central defenders and while the Liverpool captain may not have the composure of Watson, he is the ideal foil for the Saints defender.

doubt he would walk into just about any other national team in the world.

Joe Corrigan . . . 3 caps

A loyal servant who has had his work cut out playing behind an erratic Manchester City side. The role of third goalkeeper is the hardest of all; Joe will go to Italy knowing he has virtually no chance of playing. It says much for his professionalism that he accepts this without moaning and Corrigan's attitude typifies the spirit of England.

Joe Corrigan



DEFENDERS

Phil Neal . . . 23 caps

One of those players who rarely stands out during a game; he gets on with his job quietly but efficiently. Neal has his critics, although you'd be hard-pushed to recall him getting the run-around. Despite the challenge of Viv Anderson, Neal will wear the number two shirt in Italy.

Dave Watson . . . 49 caps

The only player to play in all of Greenwood's 24 matches in charge, Watson could also claim to be the best centre-half in Europe. A sound defender, he also scores his share of goals from set-pieces. He'll be facing the cream of Europe's strikers in Italy, but our guess is that he'll come out on top. England have an impressive record of shut-outs and Watson's commanding form is a major factor in this.

Mick Mills . . . 29 caps

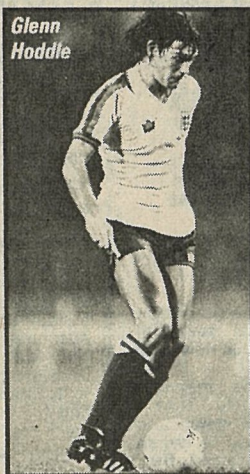
The Ipswich captain may not have the flair of Kenny Sansom, but you can always rely on Mills not to let you down. A versatile and consistent player, he is not ready to concede his place to the Crystal Palace youngster yet. Mills has been outstanding this season as Ipswich once again challenge for a European spot and Mr. Reliability will be there in Italy.

Viv Anderson . . . 3 caps

Looks tremendous going forward, yet has a tendency to concede free-kicks around the edge of his own penalty-area, which can be fatal against the Continental specialists. Even so, 'Spider' is a modern full-back, a good team-man whose attacking skills put pressure on the winger he marks.



Kenny Sansom



Glenn Hoddle



Dave Watson, Greenwood's only ever-present since taking charge of the England team in 1977.

Kenny Sansom . . . 3 caps

The Crystal Palace youngster has shown he can be relied upon if necessary, yet he may find the veteran Mills hard to shift. Ron Greenwood doesn't believe in rushing his junior players and simply being in Italy will be valuable experience for Sansom. He's had a very good, if not spectacular, first season in Division One. Kenny has the talent — let's hope his

tremendous potential is realised.

Emlyn Hughes . . . 60 caps

Crazy Horse O.B.E. knows he is going to the European Championship as a reserve, but Ron Greenwood doesn't have a better squad man amongst his 22. Emlyn is the most experienced player in Greenwood's selection; this, plus his infectious enthusiasm will be invaluable in Italy. He's led Wolves to League Cup victory already this season and those who think he's over the hill are mistaken.

Trevor Cherry . . . 21 caps

Like Hughes, Cherry isn't a first choice, although his ability to play anywhere along the back-four gives Greenwood the chance to name more attacking players as substitutes, such is the Leeds man's versatility. Trevor has been

style is ready-made for such situations, where England find themselves with space. He 'sits' just in front of the back-four and is invariably at the start of every England attack. Looks casual and at times frustrates when he doesn't do the simple things. Still only 23 and already an established international.

Trevor Brooking . . . 33 caps

A true Ron Greenwood player, having been coached by the England manager for most of his career at West Ham. There isn't a better player in England than the elegant Brooking running at the defence and then passing at just the right moment. The only question mark over his head is that the manager may opt for a stronger player in midfield.

Ray Kennedy . . . 12 caps

Not exactly a ball-winner, but a



Kevin Keegan has the skill and ability to prove himself the outstanding player of the tournament.



Peter Barnes (left) and Tony Woodcock (above) have both enjoyed a successful second half of the season, and could cause problems with their pace.

MIDFIELDERS

Kevin Keegan . . . 50 caps

Mighty Mouse has a free role, linking between midfield and attack; there isn't a better player of this type in Europe. He can lose even the tightest of markers and his experience of Continental football means he'll know what to expect in Italy. Keegan is a great player, a great captain and Ron Greenwood is the envy of the other seven managers having him at his disposal.

Steve Coppell . . . 20 caps

Steve's had an up and down season for United, but showed in Spain that he can still do a good job for England. An all-action midfielder/winger, Coppell has assumed the 'work horse' role once held by Alan Ball. Has a knack of scoring vital 'little' goals from close range.

Ray Wilkins . . . 28 caps

Plays his best football on away grounds at international level. His

powerful midfielder who rarely wastes a pass. A regular goal-scorer, Kennedy has had a fine season and it is more than a coincidence that while he was injured Liverpool struggled.

Glenn Hoddle . . . 1 cap

The top-scoring midfielder in the First Division, Hoddle couldn't have wished for a better 1979/80. He was rightly chosen Young Player of the Year and it is the ability to surprise defences from 20 yards that may give him the nod over Players' Player of the Year Terry McDermott, who, although a scorer of spectacular goals himself, isn't as regular a marksman.

FORWARDS

Trevor Francis . . . 18 caps

He should have many more caps; untimely injuries have been cruel to the Forest forward. Francis has been scoring fairly regularly during the second-half of the season and, most important, seems to play well when he really has to. Brian Clough and Peter Taylor may be undecided as to his best position, but Ron Greenwood plays him wide on the right to make full use of his blistering pace.

Tony Woodcock . . . 9 caps

Trevor's one-time scoring partner at Forest has added a few more tricks to his game during his half-season with Cologne. Woody needs the right service and given this (as he was in Spain) he can be deadly. Like Trevor, he has astonishing speed when running with the ball and the England pair could be a feature of the tournament.

Laurie Cunningham . . . 4 caps

El Negrito's international career hasn't really got off the floor, but he's played well for Real Madrid and his knowledge of Spanish football will be useful for the game against Spain. Laurie has loads of



skill and it is best seen in the free role he has with Real.

Peter Barnes . . . 15 caps

The West Brom winger has been out of the international limelight recently. His form for Albion over the past five months has been first-class, though, and he will note with satisfaction that he has scored more goals than any Manchester City player.

Garry Birtles . . . No caps

Ron Greenwood won't use all the 22 players he takes to Italy. Some, like Emlyn Hughes, will be there to provide experience. Others, like Garry, will go to gain experience.



Sansom's fighting for England place

KENNY Sansom believes he is playing for his England future from now until the end of the season.

Sansom returned from England's international in Spain admitting: "I was disappointed not to play. When I was told I wasn't even on the sub's bench, I was upset. I thought I had done well in the three games I'd played for England, but then being left out in Spain makes me wonder.

"All I can do is to play so well at club level that Mr. Greenwood cannot ignore me. I feel I have played

my best football of the season recently. After a wretched season personally, I've suddenly rediscovered my best form and I'm feeling fit and sharp.

"But an England place is important to me. I badly want to go to Italy with England. When things were going wrong earlier in the season, playing for England kept me alive.

"I want to go to Italy with England and play there, too. I hope my chances haven't receded because I missed out in Barcelona."

LUTON'S chief executive John Smith is laying plans to attract even more youthful supporters to home games next season. The resourceful and inventive ex-Leicester secretary said: "We aim to concentrate on a programme of events which will involve youngsters not only in watching the team but with the club.

"We want to give them their own pre-match entertainment, their own enclosure, their own toilets, turnstiles and refreshment bars."

Plans are to enlarge the already popular Junior Hatters Club at Kenilworth Road, Century Club member Colin Ball has been appointed youth development officer.

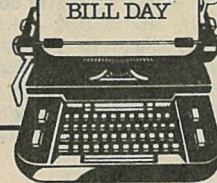
Fergie Villa bound?

ASTON Villa may yet capture Coventry striker Mick Ferguson. Manager Ron Saunders had a £750,000 bid accepted but then his directors refused to give him the money.

Ferguson though is keen to join Villa and if Saunders can get his board to hand over the cash at the end of the season then the big centre-forward could end up at Villa Park.

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



THE playing career of Mike Pejic, Aston Villa's £250,000 signing from Everton earlier this season, is in doubt because of a pelvic injury.

Pejic has played only a dozen games for Villa and admits he is concerned about his playing future.

He has been told that the only cure is complete rest.

The former Stoke City full-back said: "I had a chance of having an operation but now I'm hoping that the rest during the summer will prove to be beneficial."

Comeback...at 42

THOUGH it's four years since he quit as a player, ex-Leeds, Coventry, Swansea and Northern Ireland wing-ace Billy Humphries is considering a top-grade comeback with Ards, his sole Irish outfit — at the ripe old age of 42!

THE thin dividing line between glory and disgrace was underlined by Sheffield Wednesday manager Jack Charlton talking on the eve of the Easter derby game at Bramall Lane.

Never one to shirk the issue, Jack acknowledged the importance of the holiday programme by saying: "It's absolutely vital to the future of this club that we get into the Second Division this season.

"It would be a disaster for the club and for the city if we didn't go up, having built expectations up so high among the supporters.

"At the moment I'm the biggest hero the city has ever known but if we don't get promoted I'll be a rogue and they'll want to hang me from the Town Hall steps. I could go from hero to villain in the space of a month."

HELP

REAL Madrid have just about everything a football club could want. But the fabulous Spaniards would dearly love to get their hands on — a piece of film.

Missing from the fabulous trophy room in Real's Bernabeu Stadium is a film of their epic 7-3 European Cup Final victory over Eintracht Frankfurt at Hampden Park in 1960.

Real have written to television companies all over the world and to news-reel organisations, but no one has come up with a copy of the film. Anybody who can help should contact Real Madrid treasurer Luis Aspiroz.

DEEHAN FAILURE

STRIKER John Deehan has let down West Brom manager Ron Atkinson since his £400,000 move from Aston Villa early this season.

That's what the 23-year-old player thought after a spell which saw him score only three goals for his new club by March 29th.

Deehan admitted: "The manager bought me to score goals. That I haven't done. I've let him down and also my team-mates because when Cyrille Regis was out injured they looked to me for goals. I didn't produce the goods.

"Strikers all go through lean spells but mine has carried on too long. There comes a time when crosses come into the box but you have just lost that edge. The zest goes out of your play in the penalty-area."

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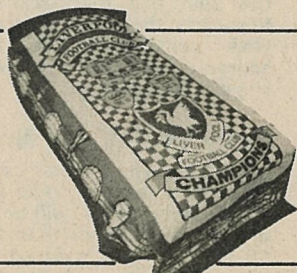
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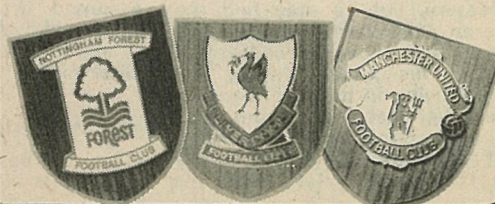
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Ipswich co-star Michael Caine

IPSWICH players have been invited to star in a £5 million Hollywood film.

A group of them are to join the cast of "Escape To Victory" which is being shot on location in Hungary during the summer.

They have been told to bring their wives and children for an all-expenses paid luxury fortnight at the Budapest Hilton.

The players taking part are Paul Mariner, Mick Mills,



Eric Gates, Paul Cooper, Kevin Beattie, Russell Osman, John Wark, Laurie Sivell and Robin Turner. And Town boss Bobby Robson will be the film's technical adviser.

Other top names from the world of soccer who will also appear are former England captain Bobby Moore, the one and only Pele and Danish star Allan Simonsen of Barcelona.

The footballers will play prisoners-of-war whose soccer team beat their German captors in a match and also devise an ingenious escape plot.

In the story, the German officers think they will have little trouble defeating their PoWs and stage the match in occupied Paris to maximise the propaganda value. But the prisoners not only score all the goals but also make an unscheduled exit.

The film is to star big-name actors Michael Caine and Sylvester Stallone — and already director John Huston has lined up Ipswich stars Beattie and Cooper as their respective understudies!

The Ipswich party will fly to Hungary in June but Beattie and Cooper are going ahead of the main group to assist with the coaching of the real stars.

Joked Beattie: "It's a tight schedule but there should also be a few laughs. I never thought of myself looking like Michael Caine but after this I might ask for a transfer to Hollywood!"

CLUB loyalty has been devalued in recent seasons but Ian Britton (left) has remained faithful to Chelsea through thick and thin. The Second Division club rewarded the player by presenting him with a plaque after his 200th League appearance for the club. No wonder he's all smiles sandwiched between two attractive escorts at the presentation ceremony.



BELL's Manager of the Year — three out of the past four seasons — Bob Paisley of Liverpool collects the Bell's Scotch Whisky Cup for the third time... and a replica to mark the occasion. Other names on the magnificent

trophy, valued at £5,000, are: Don Revie (ex-Leeds Utd) three times, Brian Clough (Nottingham Forest), Bill Shankly (ex-Liverpool), Jack Charlton (Sheffield Wednesday), Bertie Mee (ex-Arsenal) and Ron Saunders (Aston Villa).

AFTER losing against Falkirk, Queen of the South trooped off for a celebration! Their goalkeeper, Alan Ball, had just played his 750th game in 16 years with the club.

GIVENS LEADS

IN last month's international against Cyprus, Liverpool's Steve Heighway earned his 26th cap for Eire. But to date, Steve has yet to put his name on the scorers sheet for the Republic. Of the remainder of the Irish squad for the Cyprus match Don Givens leads the scoring charts with 18 goals from 48 outings; Liam Brady has two goals from 25 games; Gerry Daley five from 20; Frank Stapleton three from 16; Tony Greathall three from 14; and Paul McGee four from 12.

MARYCULTER F.C., a Kincardineshire amateur side, recently had to cancel one of their home games after their pitch was invaded by cows who left behind a trail of pats and damaged turf. Mr Ian Massey, the club secretary, said: "The pitch was unplayable. It would have been no joke falling in that mess." The club have decided to invest in a fence to stop any further invasions.

PHIL PARKES COMPETITION WINNERS

IN March we presented a quiz about Phil Parkes... and many of you knew that he began his Football League career with Walsall; he joined Q.P.R. for £15,000 in 1970, and his first full England debut in 1974 was against Portugal. All correct entries were then judged on neatness, and the winner was WAYNE NICHOLLS, of Crawley, Sussex, who wins a super day out with West Ham to meet Phil and the rest of The Hammers.

For 25 runners-up we had Phil Parkes goalkeepers gloves from the Sukan Sports range, and these went to:

Ian Atkinson, Louth; Simon Barham, Cambridge; David Barnwell, Leicester; Andrew Betts, Lincoln; Kevin Brown, Amptill; Tim Carter, St. Helier; Evan Davies, Rhayader; Darren Drake, Chichester; Paul Hand, Dublin; Alistair Janusch, Windsor; Neil Jenkins, Langport; Andrew Kassube, Lincoln; Richard Kent, Chichester; Andrew Lawlor, Reading; Shirley Lyons, Listowel;

Andrew McCarthy, London, SE9; Shaun Moore, Houghton-le-Spring; Eddie Payne, Welwyn Garden City; Mark Richardson, Chester-le-Street; Paul Sabulis, Plymouth; Michael Steedman, Edinburgh; Christopher Weeks, Alton; Kevin West, Market Harborough; Graham Wilkinson, Chester-le-Street; Vicki Wolstenholme, Chelmsford.

3-IN-1 HAMMER

RAY STEWART, already a favourite at West Ham, is certain to become one of the country's top players.

That is the opinion of Ray's fellow Scot, goalkeeper Bobby Ferguson who has now been with West Ham for 13 years.

Says Bobby: "Ray is already a born leader and, in fact, he is three players rolled into one."

"There is no doubt that he has what it takes to reach the very top."

SPURS midfielder man Terry Yorath is pleased with the move that took him from Coventry to White Hart Lane last August. Despite bad luck with suspension and injuries, the former Leeds man said: "Coming to the club has been a great move for me. The way the fans have taken to me has been a continual highlight."

SWINDON goalkeeper Jimmy Allan, whose performances this season have brought him to the notice of Scotland boss Jock Stein, can boast the population of an entire village among his supporters. They are the folk of Jimmy's home village, the tiny fishing port of Balintore, Easter Ross. The villagers are so proud of Jimmy they had even booked three buses to take them all the way to Wembley to cheer him on in the League Cup Final. Sadly for them, Swindon lost in the Semi-Finals.

MIKE'S MILESTONE

EVERTON skipper Mike Lyons reached a personal milestone recently when he made his 300th League appearance for the club in the 2-1 defeat at Middlesbrough last month.

Proof of the comings and goings at Goodison can be found in the fact that the last player to record such a feat for Everton was John Hurst — six seasons ago!

STEVE Powell takes the field for Derby County with the club's latest signing. He's light in the tackle, weak in the air, short on stamina and speed — but Steve reckons he's a winner. It's his three-year-old son — Steve.



Briefly...

● Swindon Town player-coach Bryan Hamilton was the last home-based Ulsterman to score in a full international. He was a Linfield ace when hitting Northern Ireland's winner in a 1-0 Windsor Park defeat of Wales on May 22, 1971.

● Go-ahead Coventry, one of the most ambitious clubs in the League, are to build a £1,000,000 sports club which will house football, badminton, squash, health centres, a solarium, saunas, bars and restaurants.

● Hibs are on target to be one of the first Scottish clubs to have undersoil heating. They have signed a contract with a Swedish firm, the same that installed a system for Manchester City at Maine Road.

● Hopes are high for a Hibs v Southampton game at Easter Road before the start of next season. Such a match would be a big crowd puller with Kevin Keegan in the Saints side.

● Bangor boss Billy Johnston included 16-year-old defender Jim Miller in the Seaside's senior squad.

● Berwick Rangers have engaged Bobby Flavell, the former Hearts, Airdrie and Scotland centre-forward, to head their scouting team in Scotland.

● West Bromwich Albion have their eye on Everton midfielder Andy King. King is still under contract to the Merseysiders but will leave Goodison at the end of the season.

● They are a close-knit lot at Ipswich. Four first team men, Eric Gates, Terry Butcher, Alan Brazil and Russell Osman live in the same area of Belstead Hills in Ipswich.

GOAL LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £5 for the Star Letter — £2 for every other letter published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. Please state which size: small, medium or large. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

All letters must be exclusive to this magazine.

This week's Star Letter comes from Robert Daly of Aintree, Liverpool, who wins our special prize of £5. He writes:

BAN THE BANDS

★ In reply to the letter 'The End Of Football', a limit must be placed on transfer fees. However, players' wages should remain flexible as every individual has the right to earn more. If all players were paid the same throughout the League, there would be no motivation.

As for travel expenses and admission prices, I don't think they influence the customer to stay away. Bad facilities and hooliganism are the cause of this.

I feel very strongly about the idea of having display bands and other half-time entertainment. Football doesn't need such things. They're a waste of time and can be viewed at any touring circus (or the NASL, which is a circus, anyway).

● Football certainly needs to be improved in many ways. Something that could give the game an

immediate boost is England winning the European Championship. Remember how the gates soared after the 1966 World Cup victory?

Time to go for Stein?

WITH the 1982 World Cup tournament drawing closer I feel that only drastic measures can now be taken to save Scotland's pride and future and that is to appoint a new manager.

I think it's obvious by now that if the manager had been any other than Jock Stein he would have been sacked long ago — take Ally MacLeod for instance.

Yet Jock Stein is still being allowed to carry on despite the fact that Scotland are becoming poorer and poorer and continuing their rather extended bad run.

The Glasgow Press (and they have moaned long enough for a Glaswegian manager) tell us "have faith in the 'Big Man'" etc. But haven't we kept faith long enough? Isn't it about time we

picked a younger and more capable manager, hopefully with no connections with Rangers and Celtic so we can have players picked on merit and not just because they wear a green or blue shirt?

Too drastic a measure? Any other ideas in our S.O.S. campaign — Save Our Scotland?

SHONAGH GORDON, BANCHORY

● Scotland's 4-1 win over Portugal last month could be the turning point for Stein. Certainly it's given him breathing space. What Scotland need more than anything is a decisive AWAY victory.

Hartlepool for Division One!

IN seven years' time, Hartlepool will be a leading force in the First Division.

Chairman Vince Parker took the first steps in leading Hartlepool out of obscurity by offering the brilliant manager Billy Horner a seven-year contract. This gives Billy the security and time to carry on with his long-term plans.

He is building a team of talent, stemming from his youth policy and shrewd signings. Most managers aren't given the time to groom youngsters and it's good to see a small outfit like Hartlepool giving their manager such confidence.

STEPHEN COCHRANE, HARTLEPOOL.

● I think if Hartlepool are in Division Three by 1987 Billy Horner will have done exceptionally well.

'Baby' Curran



I LOVE watching wingers and I was most impressed by Sheffield Wednesday's Terry Curran on Match of the Day against local rivals United. One incident soured it, though.

Curran was involved in a scuffle with his marker, Tony Kenworthy. When the referee called Curran over, the Wednesday player intentionally (seemingly) trod on Kenworthy's injured foot.

Curran has exceptional skill and flair, but wouldn't it be nice if players didn't act like babies and showed the true spirit of the game?

STEVE MANN, TRAMALEN.

● A player of Curran's ability should be above such petty behaviour; as you say, he soured a brilliant display with his unsporting attitude.

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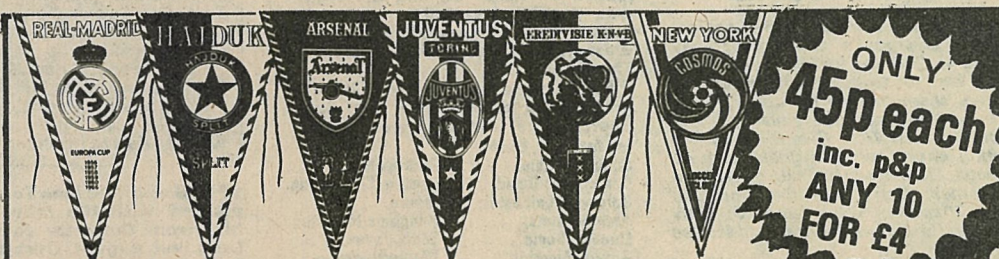
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AS well as being a SHOOT columnist I'm also an avid SHOOT reader and there's not much that appears in Britain's best soccer magazine that escapes my scrutiny.

I was reading what Andy Gray had to say about his performance against Portugal at Hampden recently where he played well and scored a wonderful goal as Scotland won 4-1.

Everyone is hoping that Andy and Kenny Dalglish click up front to give Jock Stein's team more firepower, but I've got a warning for both Kenny and Andy... I haven't finished my international career just yet!

My goal for Rangers against Aberdeen which thrust Rangers into the Scottish Cup Final, at Hampden on May 10 confirmed my potential for a recall by Scotland.

International

I've always considered centre back to be my best position, but while I am playing as a striker for Rangers I can hardly expect to be considered for any other position on the international front.

Let's face it, any manager would be taking a gamble to switch a player's position just to suit the individual. It takes time to adjust to such a change and there is a big difference between playing for your club as a goalscorer and playing for your country as a goalkeeper.

So, I'll have to force my way into the forward line while I am doing that job for Rangers and that means I will have to put pressure on both Kenny and Andy for that coveted dark blue jersey.

The British Championship is just around the corner and I don't want

to miss out on it as I did last season. These matches are a marvellous way of rounding off the programme and I am desperate to be involved.

There is a fresh optimism in Scotland at the moment after the win over the Portuguese. Okay, I know it didn't mean a thing so far as the European Championship was concerned, but it was still a



heartening 90 minutes for the fans.

It's terrible for Scotland not to be involved in the European Finals in Italy next month. There is a buzz in the air because England are going and it's not nice to have this feeling of being left out.

Now I know how the English must have felt during the World Cup Finals in 1974 and '78 when Scotland were the sole representatives from Britain! Sorry, I couldn't resist that...

Like I said earlier, I prefer to play in the middle of the back-four and that could be where I will settle down later in my career. That means I will then be in direct opposition to another of my SHOOT team-mates when it

comes to the international side... I'm talking about big Gordon McQueen, of Manchester United.

Gordon and I both sat out the Portuguese game and I would expect he is every bit as determined as myself to make the breakthrough for Scotland again.

I played in the previous match against Belgium when we lost 3-1 at Hampden. It was a disappointing display all round for the Scots. I didn't play well, but it was the same story throughout the team.

I wouldn't like to think I will be forgotten because of that performance.

My thoughts at the moment, though, are on the Scottish Cup Final at Hampden on May 10. It's great to be involved in another Final and, as holders, we must fancy our chances even against our great rivals Celtic.

It wasn't easy to get past Aberdeen in the Semi-Final in our seventh meeting of the season. They are an extremely gifted side and fought hard. I'll be talking more about the big game in my next column in a fortnight's time. See you then...

'Don't forget ME Mr. Stein'



Johnstone (dark shirt) heads the only goal of the game for Rangers against Celtic in the League this season. He hopes to repeat that feat in the forthcoming Scottish Cup Final.

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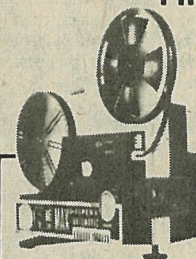
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WONDER WEIR

EVERY now and again a young star explodes on to the soccer scene and his breathtaking ability has everyone applauding and wondering if he can sustain his remarkable powers.

We've all seen careers take off like a rocket and burn out with the same sudden impact. But SHOOT has absolutely no doubt at all that Scotland has unearthed yet another gem in the shape of St. Mirren outside-left Peter Weir.

Peter who? That might be the reaction at the moment, but in a couple of seasons' time his name will be well known to soccer fans.

One man who certainly agrees is Love Street manager Jim Clunie, who has wasted no time in handing the 21-year-old winger a lucrative five-year contract that already makes him one of the highest-paid players in the Premier Division.

The details of the contract are, naturally enough, unknown, but Weir can't hide his delight when he says: "I was happy to sign on the dotted line when I saw the terms. It really is a tremendous contract."

St. Mirren, of course, have brought on some of the most enterprising babes in the country in recent seasons and they took in over £550,000 in transfer cash when they sold Frank McGarvey to Liverpool and Tony Fitzpatrick to Bristol City in the close season.

Clunie, though, is determined to put the brakes on future deals that will see his top players leaving Love Street. He underlined that intention by refusing to accept £250,000 from Stoke City for international left-back Iain Munro.

Other players such as Billy Stark, Lex Richardson, Billy Abercromby, Alan Logan, Billy Thomson and Mark Fulton have been winning rave notices and attracting attention from across the border, but Clunie will not encourage any would-be buyer.

After persuading Weir to sign for five years, Clunie said: "I've got all

the players I want signed up now and I'm not prepared to let them go."

Well, what makes this man Weir so special? For a start, he is completely unpredictable, the type of player who likes to run at defences and confound them with his unorthodox skills.

His lung-bursting runs from deep in his own half can turn the opposing team inside out and team-mate Jimmy Bone says: "This lad is something special. He works hard at his game and has got the right attitude."

Jock Stein is another admirer of Weir the Wonder-Kid and would have almost certainly played him in the Under-21 matches against West Germany and England this season if the Paisley forward had been fully fit.

'Asset'

"He is an exciting player," says Stein, "an invaluable asset to any side. He uses the ball intelligently and can turn defence into attack in one run."

The tributes continue to flow in for Weir and it is difficult to believe that this is his first full season in the top team.

"I enjoy my football with St. Mirren," says Weir. "We are basically a young team and we all want to do well. There is ambition here running right through the side."

Weir was in marvellous form when St. Mirren met Celtic in the Scottish Cup this season, but even his uncanny skills couldn't help his team into the next round. Celtic won 3-2 in extra-time, but the game was a personal triumph for the youngster.

He took the limelight with his amazing ability and was a constant menace to the Parkhead rear-guard. Mark that name Peter Weir in your diary. You will undoubtedly be hearing an awful lot more about him in the very near future.



Torrance no longer a 'problem' player

JIM CLUNIE shook his head in bewilderment, swept a hand through his hair and said in a puzzled tone: "Is that boy a reserve? There must be some really good players at St. Mirren if he can't get a first team place."

Clunie was talking shortly after taking over St. Mirren at the start of last season. The club's leading striker Frank McGarvey, now with Celtic, was forced to miss a friendly with Hamilton because he was getting married and Clunie brought in young Robert Torrance in his place.

Torrance immediately walloped five goals past luckless Hamilton 'keeper Rikki Ferguson and left his new manager completely baffled.

"It's a bit of a problem," conceded Clunie. "How can you drop a player after a performance like that? Still, it's a happy problem."

When McGarvey was sold to Liverpool for £300,000 in the close season it looked as though Torrance's career at Love Street would really take off. He had waited patiently in the shadow world of the reserves and now it looked as though he would be awarded by an extended run in the top team.

"That's what I was looking for," says the talented Torrance. "I was in and out of the side, and it didn't really do anything for my game."

"What I needed was a settled run, but it never happened. I realised this season I had to leave the club to further my career."

If Torrance thought he would be asked to fill McGarvey's shooting boots his thinking was way off beam. Clunie immediately bought not one, but two new strikers in Frank McDougall — £150,000 from Clydebank and Doug Somner — £100,000 from Partick Thistle.

Torrance was still pulled in every now and again, but the extended run never materialised and that was why the player was so happy

to go to Hibs recently in a £40,000 transfer deal that just beat the deadline.

"I was delighted to sign," says the 21-year-old striker who scored over 50 goals in four years with St. Mirren. "There was obviously no future for me at Love Street and I had made no secret about my intentions of moving elsewhere in my search for first team football."

"Okay, Hibs have been relegated this season, but everyone agrees they are a talented side despite all that has happened"

'Confidence'

"This is a big opportunity for me and it is up to me not to waste this chance. I've got confidence in my ability to believe I won't prove to be a waste of money."

Torrance, in fact, is a bargain at only £40,000 for he has demonstrated in the past that he can score valuable and vital goals. It is another of soccer's mysteries that he didn't make the grade with St. Mirren.

Easter Road fans know all about Torrance's goal-snapping ability for he showed them how it was done earlier in the season in an Anglo-Scottish Cup-tie.

The first-leg had ended in a thrilling 3-3 draw at Love Street and Hibs were favourites to win the second-leg and advance into the next stage. Torrance, however, had other ideas and he paraded his many skills on a bright, entertaining evening in Edinburgh and scored the only goal of the game.

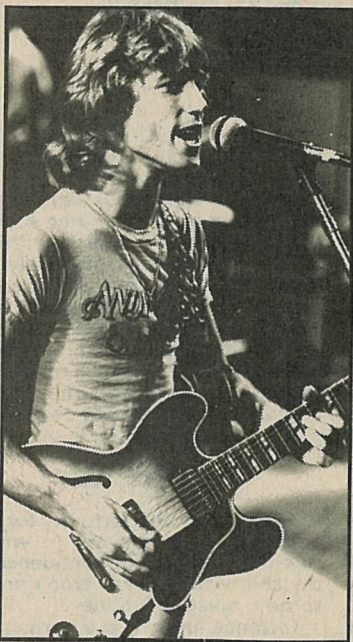
Now Torrance is being given the opportunity to score more goals like that at Easter Road!

Pop star ANDY GIBB dreams he's George Best

LIKE his famous brothers, the Bee Gees, pop singer Andy Gibb spends most of his time in America. When he's not touring, or recording hits like "Shadow Dancing", you'll find him relaxing in his houseboat home in Miami.

But although Andy's successful career has taken him around the world, when it comes to football, his heart's still in his home town! "I was born in Manchester on March 5, 1958," Andy told SHOOT during a recent trip to London. "That was just a month after the Munich air crash. People up in Manchester still say the Busby Babes could have been the best team Britain has ever seen. When the news came in of the crash, nobody could believe it.

"We moved away from Manchester while I was still a



baby, but somehow United have always been my team. Maybe it was because of Munich. When I was old enough to take an interest in the game, United were building another great side. I think most people in the game were happy to see them back at the top. That 60's side, with Best, Law and Charlton, was fantastic. George Best was my hero. He was brilliant.

"I was living in Australia in the early Sixties, but we'd get the football news from England and I'd cut out the United reports and keep them. It's the same now. Wherever I am in the world, I like to get the Saturday football news and I always want to know the United result first. I take an interest in Manchester City too, but to be honest, United always come first."

Andy was back in Britain by 1968, so he could enjoy every minute of the European Cup win over Benfica at Wembley.

"Yes, 4-1, after extra-time," he smiles. "What a night that was. George Best was in super form and it was great to see Bobby Charlton and Matt Busby celebrating together at the end. There was a lot of emotion out on the pitch that night."

Although Andy was a red hot Red Devils fan, it was difficult for him to see many of their games. "I used to go and see my local club, Watford, instead. Like a lot of youngsters, I went through the skinhead phase. I had the boots and braces and the short hair. I was one of the gang. So, I can understand the problem of violence at grounds.

"I think a lot of the kids who cause the trouble come from the tough parts of town. They go to the match with a gang and burn off their tension there. They go looking for a fight.

"The trouble makers are always in the minority, at any ground, but they make a lot of true supporters think twice about going to big games.

'Huge Crowds'

"That's a great pity. In the States, they don't have the same problem, with soccer or American football. The grid-iron game attracts huge crowds. It's tough out there on the pitch, but you never hear of fights in the crowd. It simply never happens."

It sounds like the American fans have got the right idea! But how is soccer shaping up in the States? Is it stealing fans from the traditional American football game?

"To be honest, grid-iron is still a long way ahead," said Andy. "But soccer is catching on. It's getting more coverage in the media now. There's soccer on TV every week too. So things are getting better all the time!"

Andy loves watching soccer... and he's a pretty nifty player too!

"When Barry, Robin and Maurice are all in Miami, we take the whole family over to the local park for a big soccer match. Barry is a really good player. We record the games on our own video camera, then we play them back when we get home.

"I'm not a particularly good player, but while I'm out there, I can dream I'm scoring goals like George Best. Well, that's part of the fun, right?"

If there was a transfer market in the pop world, even Manchester United would find it difficult to find the cash to buy Andy Gibb and his soccer loving Bee Gees brothers!

If Manchester United had managed to regain the goalscoring flair which made them one of the best and most exciting teams in the world, we might well have been celebrating taking Liverpool's title from them.

Manager Dave Sexton made scoring goals United's number one target as the final run-in to the Championship really started to hot up.

After losing 6-0 away to Ipswich on March 1st, we went through a lean spell when the side only scored one goal in four matches.

That disaster at Portman Road meant we had to tighten up. In doing so United lost a lot going forward.

But while we didn't score, it must be remembered we didn't lose a game, or concede a goal, either.

When a team isn't playing well it's usually the strikers who suffer most. Chances aren't being made for them from the midfielders and wingers.

They work twice as hard chasing lost causes, as Joe Jordan and Lou Macari will tell you.

Unfortunately, United don't have what you'd describe as a prolific goalscorer like Dave Johnson. Or a twin spearhead in the Frank Stapleton/Alan Sunderland mould.

Other clubs, like Arsenal, rely on two men to produce the goods. At United the goals are spread out more. They can come from any

direction.

Some critics called on Dave Sexton to bring in young Andy Ritchie and give him an extended run. But I believe it would have been a mistake at the time.

Andy, of course, did get a chance against Spurs recently, and really showed his form with an outstanding hat-trick in our 4-1 win.

Certainly none of our forwards can offer to rest on their laurels with young Andy playing so well.

The first United player to reach double figures in the first team was little winger Mickey Thomas, who scored his tenth goal in all competitions in our 3-1 win at Bolton over Easter.

I also scored in that game to take my total to nine.

Before the start of the season, Dave Sexton said he expected me to reach double figures, so that goal put me right on target.

I've scored more than ten goals in

RIGHT... Mickey Thomas, the first United player to reach double figures for goals this season, is tackled by Everton's Trevor Ross.

BELOW... Celebration time as McQueen heads home his second goal of the season against West Bromwich Albion in September.



a season before, but never all in the League.

Someone asked me recently if I'm embarrassed by my goalscoring feats and take a ribbing from the lads.

Of course, I don't. Most of my goals come from set-pieces and so involve other players.

As I've explained in a previous column we spend a lot of our time during training working on dead-ball situations. So my goals are usually the result of a real team effort.

Anyway, let's run through my goals . . . up to our away match at Norwich City on April 19th.

I scored GOAL ONE on the opening day of the season in our away 1-1 draw at Southampton.

From a free-kick I managed to get in a good header which hit the underside of the crossbar and bounced on the line. The ball then struck a Saints defender and trickled into the net.

Lucky? Maybe, but what a great way to kick-off a new season.

I headed GOAL TWO a few days later in United's 2-0 home win against West Brom, following an outswinging corner-kick. Nothing very special about that effort.

I didn't add to my tally until September 29th when I scored twice in United's 4-0 home win over newly-promoted Stoke City.

GOAL THREE was again a header after an outswinging corner. It was a decent goal, but not as good as GOAL FOUR.

A United attack had broken down and the ball cleared by Stoke. The ball looked like running over the touch-line for a throw-in to United when our young substitute Tom

Sloan appeared from nowhere.

He stopped the ball going out of play and hammered a great cross into the Stoke six yard box where I dived full length to head home.

Spectacular? Yes, but the finish wasn't as good as the cross and determination shown by young Sloan.

I then had a lean spell until adding GOAL FIVE, away to Coventry on December 15th.

After a corner the ball bounced around the Coventry area, but they failed to clear their lines.

Our full-back Jimmy Nicholl intercepted the ball and hit a hard, low cross. I just managed to get my foot behind it and glance it into the net. Lou Macari scored United's match-winner.

GOAL SIX against Nottingham Forest on December 22nd at Old Trafford proved to be a real killer.

It put United 3-0 up before half-time and the result beyond all doubt.

Following a perfect Ray Wilkins

free-kick I outjumped Larry Lloyd — which pleased me no end — picked my spot and headed past Peter Shilton's right hand. He never stood a chance.

I've seen that goal several times since because GRANADA TV use it in the introduction of their sports programme, Kick-off.

I scored GOAL SEVEN a week later in another 3-0 home victory; this time against Arsenal.

Sammy McIlroy took another of his perfect inswinging corners which bent right under the Arsenal crossbar.

Standing on the line — a tactic introduced by Jack Charlton at Leeds — all I had to do was jump up and direct the ball into the net.

Goalkeepers, even those of Pat Jennings' class, have very little chance of saving those.

GOAL EIGHT, at home to Bolton on February 27th, was a carbon copy of my seventh.

As another of Sammy's inswinging corners came over I moved out

MY SOCCER
WORLD

Gordon
McQueen



'MY GOALS OF THE SEASON'



a couple of feet from the line to head past the 'keeper . . . real Jack Charlton style.

I scored GOAL NINE on April 7th, ironically in our return match with Bolton at Burnden. And it was the best of the lot, by a long chalk. In fact, people have told me since it's one of the best headed goals they've seen.

Sammy McIlroy was about to take a corner when I shouted at him to leave it. He'd previously taken three or four and had got nowhere. So I thought a change of kicker might produce a change of luck.

Ashley Grimes took the kick and hammered the ball over hard and low.

I ran at the ball, dived and made contact from about 15 yards out. It was a perfect header and the ball simply flew into the net.

Naturally, I'll be hoping to increase my total in United's last home League match of the season against Coventry this Saturday (April 26th).

As you know United beat them 2-1 at Highfield Road when I scored GOAL FIVE.

Sky Blues are by no means one of the best teams in the First Division, but they are never easy to beat, either.

Whatever the result you can bet I've had a tough battle because of their twin strike force of Mick Ferguson and Ian Wallace. They are always a handful.

See you next time . . .

Gordon McQueen

'ENGLAND CAN BE THE CHAMPIONS!'

BERNARD DIETZ W. Germany



SHOOT: Franz Beckenbauer was the captain of the German team but since he went to the USA it has usually been the player with the most caps who was skipper. Why do you think Jupp Derwall chose you?

DIETZ: Goalkeeper Sepp Maier was the captain after Beckenbauer, but when he was injured in a car crash we had to have a new captain. Rainer Bonhof had the most caps, but I think that Herr Derwall gave me the job for several reasons. First Bonhof usually joins the squad late because he plays with Valencia. Then again I am the captain of my club MSV Duisberg and also get along very well with my colleagues in the national team.

SHOOT: What do you think of the new England team and do you think they can beat Italy to reach the Final?

DIETZ: I have only seen England recently on television, but clearly they are now one of the best teams in Europe. I think they can win the European Championship if they get the breaks. I know that means they must beat Italy — if they are at their best I think they can do it.

SHOOT: Who do you think are the key players in the England team?

DIETZ: There seems to be a world wide shortage of players who can score goals. But England seem to have more than their share of such players and in particular I have been impressed by Kevin Keegan, Tony Woodcock and Trevor Francis.

SHOOT: West Germany looked strangely unsure of themselves in the last World Cup and got some very ordinary results when Herr Derwall first took over. The team

seems to have settled down now, but do you think your team is stronger than the side that flopped in Argentina?

DIETZ: In the World Cup our team lacked harmony and seemed to be just individuals. Some of the players did not appear to know their roles. Herr Derwall corrected this, explaining in a friendly way to each player what his duties were and we are a much stronger team now. Statistics do not lie and since the World Cup we have been unbeaten with nine victories, three draws and no defeats.

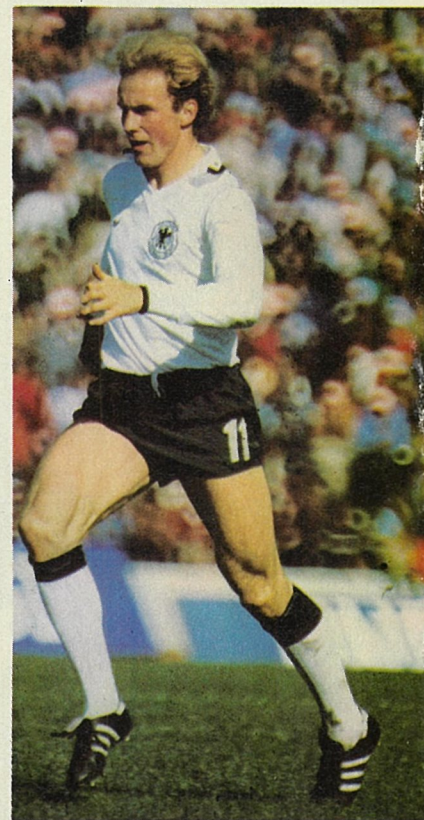
SHOOT: Do you think West Germany can reach the Final and win the European Championship after losing to Czechoslovakia on penalties in the 1976 competition?

DIETZ: Yes, I am sure we have a strong team and have a good chance to reach the Final and win. But in my opinion England and Italy, Germany and Holland are all very good and the successful team will be the one that plays in its best form in June.

SHOOT: Are you pleased that you have avoided England and Italy in the preliminary stages in Italy?

DIETZ: I have to be honest and say yes, I am very relieved. A game against Italy or England would be like a Final and take too much out of the players, physically and emotionally if we met them before.

SHOOT: Greece should not be a problem for you, but what do you think of Holland and Czechoslovakia who are also in your qualifying group?



LEFT . . . Dietz chats to former captain Berti Vogts, now in charge of Germany's youngsters.

ABOVE . . . Bayern Munich's Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has been in top form this season.

DIETZ: All the teams that have reached the final stages will be difficult to beat and I am sure it would be foolish to underestimate Greece even though they have never yet beaten Germany. It is difficult to judge the strength of the Czechs because their results have been variable, but I am sure Holland will be difficult to beat. With players like Krol, Kist, the Van der Kerkhoff twins and dangerous wingers in Tahamata and La Ling, Holland are my secret tip.

SHOOT: Who will be the most important German players in Italy?

DIETZ: I don't want to name individuals because strength, speed and team-work are the essential qualities in football today and I think we have them all in our team.

SHOOT: The absence of centre-forward Klaus Fischer, who broke his right leg during March, must handicap Germany, as he had been scoring regularly for the national team in the qualifying ties. Who will take his place?



DIETZ: Yes, Klaus was back to his best before his accident. We are fortunate to have some very capable replacements. Hamburger SV's Horst Hrubesch won his first cap in our 1-0 win over Austria a few weeks ago, while Cologne's Dieter Müller has been leading the Bundesliga goalchart. Dieter, of course, did well in the 1976 Championship in Yugoslavia, when he was unknown at international level.

SHOOT: The Italian team manager, Enzo Bearzot, has been criticised for keeping out of form Juventus players who are getting a little old, together too long. Do you think Italy need to re-build their team?

DIETZ: I have heard these reports in recent months, but the Juv-

en-based team was very good in Argentina. I think performance is more important than age and if Signor Bearzot builds a new team after the European Championship, I am also sure that Italy will be difficult opponents in June.

SHOOT: There have been many stories about referees not doing well in charge of games played in Italy and the public will be Italy-crazy. Do you think the referees, fans and general conditions will make it difficult for the visiting teams in the European Championship?

DIETZ: No I don't think the conditions will be specially difficult. U.E.F.A. will obviously choose the best referees for the tournament and the Italian F.A. must do everything necessary for the safety of the players. I think the European Championship will be a fair competition.

SHOOT: Jupp Derwall seemed to be short of a left-sided striker who can get goals. Has this problem been solved and who do you think it will be playing up-front for West Germany?

DIETZ: Indeed this was a problem for quite some time. In recent games Klaus Allofs has played well, and scored goals in this position. He plays a little deeper than some front-men, but comes storming out of midfield to get his goals. He is a player with a lot of elegant skills and fast as well as being a natural goalscorer.

SHOOT: Franz Beckenbauer and Gerd Müller were the heroes of the German fans for such a long time. Have they got new favourites now?

DIETZ: This is a difficult question but I think the two Förster brothers Karl-Heinz and Bernd, who play for VfB Stuttgart are the most popular now. They are both young and it is obvious to the supporters that they think first about playing football and not so much about money!

● Interview by Karl-Heinz Jens.

Injury to Klaus Fischer could give Cologne's Dieter Müller (light shirt) the chance to make a comeback to the national team.



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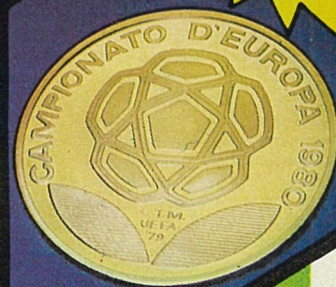


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'DYNAMAC' PLANS TO LEAVE LIVERPOOL

TERRY McDERMOTT, the all action Liverpool player the fans have christened 'Dynamac', has decided to leave Anfield at the end of the next season.

The Professional Footballers' choice as Player of the Year wants to boost his fame and bank balance by playing football abroad.

He fancies the chance of joining a West German club, following in the wake of Kevin Keegan and Tony Woodcock, when his contract expires at Liverpool.

But McDermott stresses that he is leaving Liverpool only to secure his future financially.

"I cannot do that by staying in England. I'm now thinking about a move to America or West Germany.

"I very nearly didn't sign the contract I'm on now. But it was best for tax reasons that I did.

"I love Liverpool and playing English football, but like most players, I have to think about the future."

Departure

McDermott announces his probable departure at a time when his midfield skills are largely instrumental in Liverpool's quest for their 12th Football League Championship.

His prodigious work-rate in a Liverpool midfield comprising Ray Kennedy, Jimmy Case and Graeme Souness has been a major influence and he is now a regular member of England's squad.

It is conservatively estimated that his transfer in an inflated British market would be £1,500,000.

His value has risen significantly since his arrival at Anfield in 1974. Bob Paisley bought him for a bargain £175,000 after warming to McDermott's midfield skills when he played for Newcastle against Liverpool in the 1974 F.A. Cup Final.

Newcastle never moved out of first gear on that Wembley day but manager-elect Paisley saw enough from McDermott to convince him that he had the pedigree to

succeed at Anfield.

Typically, McDermott was thrust straight into Liverpool's Central League team. He stayed there for 18 months.

It was a hard pill to swallow for the fast talking, confident McDermott, for he had stood on the terraces at Liverpool as a boy dreaming that one day he would pull on the famous red shirt.

Would that day come, or was he to fall into obscurity after a bright career supplying bullets for Malcolm Macdonald to fire for Newcastle?

McDermott explains: "It was the best thing that could have happened. It taught me a lesson.

"I was a big fish in a small pond at Newcastle, but I soon discovered there are no stars when I arrived at Liverpool.

"Only when the club were satisfied I had accepted that fact were they prepared to give me my head and an opportunity to demonstrate my skills in the First Division."

His progress in the red shirt was rapid once he had been given his opportunity. He won his first England cap against Sweden two years ago, and although his outings under Ron Greenwood are infrequent, it is simply because of the quality of midfield players available for the England manager's deployment.

Many observers thought him unlucky not to win another England cap in Barcelona at the end of March but, providing he has recovered from his recent injury, he could be a key member of England's squad when they try to win the European Championship for the first time in Italy this summer.

Given a game or two in the Finals, McDermott will hope to make full use of the arena to influence European managers searching for midfield talent.

There will be no shortage of them clamouring for his autograph on a contract when McDermott, the PFA's Player of the Year, winds-up his glittering career at Anfield.



NOTTS COUNTY are a club bursting with ambition. Their aim is promotion to the First Division and, obviously, to emulate the feats of the unmentionables across the River Trent.

"We have the side capable of doing it," says striker Trevor Christie, "and every player at Meadow Lane thinks the same. We feel we can live in the top flight, no matter what anybody else may think."

"Every Second Division side want to play at the highest level and against the Liverpools and Manchester Uniteds. But promotion hasn't come to Meadow Lane this season because of our erratic form."

"One week we play brilliantly away and the next we struggle at home. We just can't seem to find the right blend of consistency. It's Jekyll and Hyde stuff. We're a different team away from Meadow Lane."

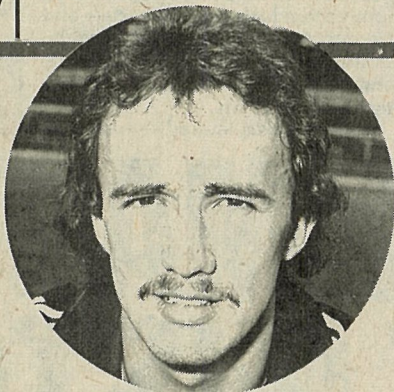
number of his goals. "I can climb well," he says, "but there's also my left foot, which can be pretty lethal at times."

"I've had a few striking partners since I arrived at Meadow Lane. We had a re-shuffle earlier on in the season and both Paul Hooks and Iain McCulloch have played alongside me. Now Iain is playing wide, with Gordon Mair on the other wing."

"In midfield we have Don Masson and David Hunt. Don's very experienced and it shows when he plays. David is the ball-winner and he keeps pushing forward. They've scored a few goals between them this season."

"At full-back we have Ray O'Brien and he's the dead ball specialist. He's scored three brilliant free-kicks. He can certainly bend a ball. Anywhere near goal, he'll try a shot. He is also our penalty expert and he's scored

Jekyll & Hyde County



"Our away results compare favourably with any of the top teams. Maybe it's because the pressure is off us. I don't know. There must be a jinx on us at Meadow Lane. I am convinced that somebody up there doesn't like us. It's remarkable."

21-year-old Christie joined County last June for a fee of around £60,000 from his first club Leicester City.

"I was playing schoolboy football in the North-East," he says. "I was spotted by Leicester scout Bob Farrington and he sent me to Filbert Street. I signed apprentice forms when I was 16 and turned professional when I was 17. I grew up with Larry May, Tommy Williams, Peter Welsh and John O'Neill. I still see them now and again, but as far as football is concerned I've no regrets at leaving Leicester despite their prospects of First Division football next season."

"We may be having a lean time at Meadow Lane, but I'm enjoying my football and that's what really matters. They're a great bunch of lads and it's a very friendly atmosphere with a terrific spirit."

"Jimmy Sirrel is a tremendous character. I've never met anybody like him. He has a sense of humour, but he knows exactly when to clamp down on the players. He's a fine manager, there's no doubt about that."

At well over six feet, Christie understandably relies on his strength in the air to bag a fair

quite a few from the spot so far. "The majority of the fans have been very good to me. It's only the odd few who are never satisfied, but you ignore them. When you start worrying about the critics, then it's time to pack in."

"But I can understand their frustration. They come along to see us winning and scoring goals, but it's something we just haven't been doing."

'Talented'

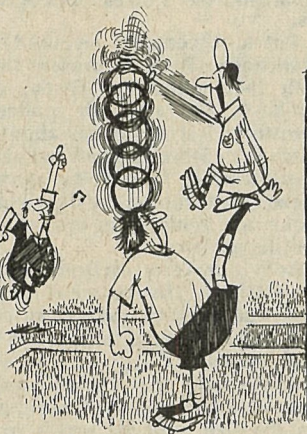
"I don't think I've anything to prove, even though I've only scored a handful of times. I think it's a question of battling away until the goals start to flow. Obviously, the likes of Jimmy Greaves had something special, but not everybody is as talented."

"My own target at Notts County is to be successful, stay in the first team and to score goals. I just take things as they come. But I'm very ambitious and I want to get in on the game. It's all up to me now, and I have only myself to blame if things aren't going right."

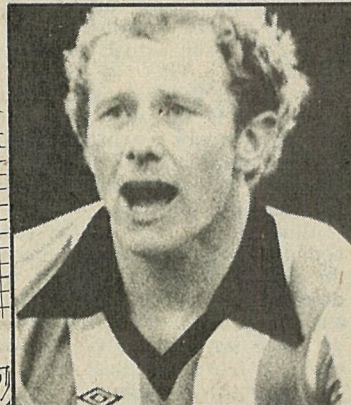
"I'm settling down at Notts County and I'm also getting married in the summer and moving into a new house. I think once my domestic affairs are happily sorted out, then people will see a new Trevor Christie."

"Nottingham Forest have had things too much their own way in this city, and it is about time it changed."

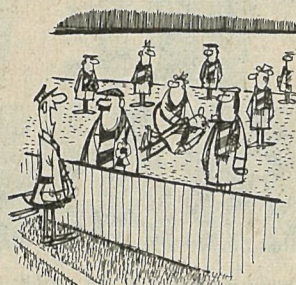
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



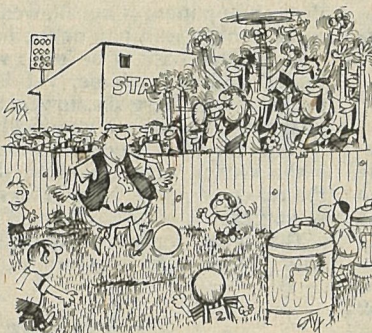
"Naughty, naughty - dangerous kicking."



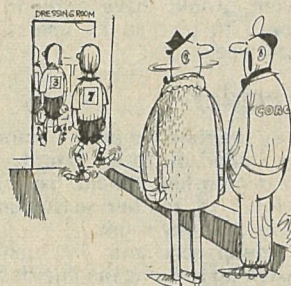
This week Alan Buckley, player-manager of Walsall, the first club promoted this season, selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



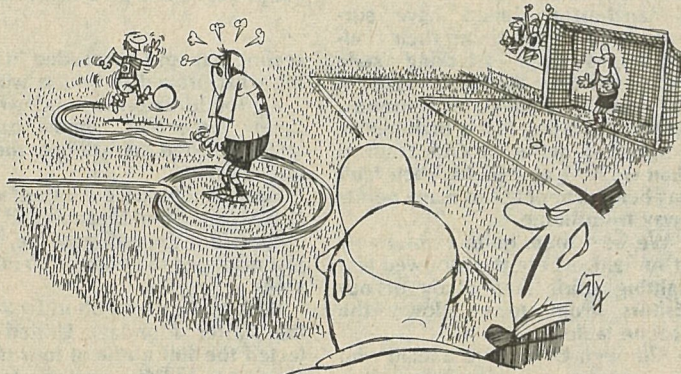
"Would you gentlemen mind passing him over your heads."



"Come on, Dalglish."



"Bit pointless you telling him that he was caught flat-footed — he is flat-footed."



"I thought I told the big-headed twit to cut out the fancy stuff."

THE word "impossible" is rarely heard at Anfield. But we were using it only a few weeks after the season began when we realised we stood little chance of even equalling last season's record of only 16 goals against in the League.

That achievement, beating the existing record of goals conceded in the 42-match programme by eight goals, was truly incredible. And we believed we could actually improve on it by ensuring we didn't give away "silly" goals this time round!

Now we're firmly convinced that our record is a freak — a one-off that will stand for ever in the history books. Another milestone set up by Liverpool, England's most successful club since the War.

Although our defence has conceded fewer goals than any other in the First Division so far, there's no doubt that we're not as compact and composed under pressure as we were last season. We've also made far more individual mistakes — and I'm no exception.

Giving away three penalty kicks (one in the League, the others in the League Cup) is something that's going to take a lot of living down.

Most other teams would be proud to have a defence as good as ours. But at Liverpool we've set high standards. And when we fall below them we're disappointed.

It's not true, as some critics maintain, that our opponents have now weighed us up and found more ways through to our goal. We're at fault for making so many errors, mainly through not keeping one hundred per cent concentration.

Our attack is not blameless. All right, so they've reaped the biggest goal harvest in the First; but it's no secret our manager has consistently complained of wasted goal-chances, which if they had been taken would have brought the points to give us an unassailable lead weeks ago!

Decider

By the time we played Manchester United on Easter Saturday, the Championship should have been assured of another season in the Anfield trophy room.

Newspapers and TV built the match up to being the title-decider, but win or lose there were still around half-a-dozen games to go — and the one thing I've learnt in football is not to count my medals until they're won!

Manchester United have surprised me by sustaining their challenge, as their attacking style suggested they would struggle on the muddy mid-winter grounds. Another amazing fact is that they've performed better at Old Trafford than we have at Anfield. Their fault has been dropping too many points away from home.

We beat them quite comfortably at Anfield, where they showed less fighting spirit than many of our visitors from lower down the League table.

Although United are a team who concentrate on going forward — their defence is not built to with-

stand a sustained onslaught — their goal tally is far from impressive. At the time of writing it's inferior to ours by five goals.

So in the unlikely event of both teams ending the season level on points, our superior goal-difference will allow us to keep our title.

Losing to United at Old Trafford after going ahead with a Kenny Dalglish goal and looking well in command was a black mark against us.

But luck certainly favoured the Manchester Reds to present them with their equaliser. Firstly, our left-back, Alan Kennedy, pulled a hamstring just as he was about to catch their Steve Coppell and get in a ball-winning tackle. This allowed Steve a clear run on the right and to make one of his telling crosses into the penalty-area.

Both our Terry McDermott and their Mickey Thomas went for the ball, but failed to make clean contact and I managed to dive and get both hands to it.

It was then that Mickey lunged into me, causing me to lose my grip on the ball, and he was able to

'WE'VE MADE TOO MANY MISTAKES'

swing a boot at it and scoop it into the net from two yards out.

Now my understanding of the relevant football law is that if a 'keeper has both hands on the ball, then an opponent is not allowed to make contact with him or the ball.

So on that basis, I believe I was fouled and the referee, Pat Partridge should have disallowed the goal and granted us a free-kick!

However, it all happened so fast, with so many players involved, that the ref could not be blamed for not seeing exactly what went on.

That "goal" really inspired United who put on more pressure in the

'I believe I was fouled by Mickey Thomas'

second half and succeeded in scoring what proved to be the winner.

Big Joe Jordan nodded down and Jimmy Greenhott, almost on his knees, headed the ball over me and into the net.

They might have got a third when Lou Macari came through and tried to side-foot the ball past me, but I just managed to get down to make a save.

With a win over Bolton by 3-1 on the Easter Monday, United collected the full quota of four points over the holiday period, to get within two of our 52-point total.

'Palace are not "The Team of the 80's"'

However, we regained something of our form the following day at Anfield, beating relegation-battling Derby County, who had had a run of good results, by 3-0 to restore our former lead.

So once again the Championship race has turned out to be a two-horse affair. There's no doubt even more interest would be generated if more were involved in the final run-in.

Ipswich Town must be kicking themselves for making such a poor start to the campaign that some people were viewing them as relegation candidates.

Manager Bobby Robson's side transformed themselves over the past four months into a team that at times overshadowed United — and Liverpool — with thrilling, highly-skilful football which has got results and established them as a big attraction with the fans.

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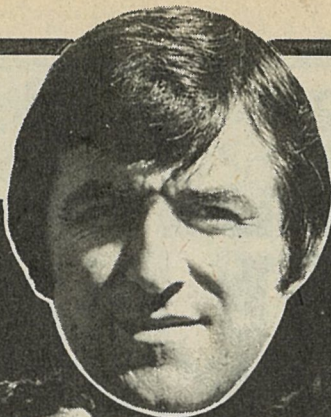
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I CAN never understand why some teams resort to rough-house tactics better suited to a street riot than a football match.

Soccer will always be physical. Two sets of ten outfield players going in opposite directions at the speed the modern game is played must become involved in some unfortunate conflicts on occasions.

It is part and parcel of the game. Take away the gladiatorial element and much of the entertainment goes with it.

Tackling is as important as shooting. If you don't win the ball, you can't score goals.

Is there a finer sight than big Joe Jordan powering forward with the ball at his feet only to come face to face with someone like Kevin Beattie en route to goal? Joe shirks nothing and Beattie is one of the First Division's best tacklers. Marvellous stuff, guaranteed to thrill the terraces.

'SOCCER'S ROGUES WILL NEVER PROSPER'

But tackling must be fair or there is no spectacle. The margin between fair and foul is slight, yet vital to the continuing popularity of our great game.

A tackle such as the one Roberto Bettega produced to fell Arsenal's David O'Leary in the Cup-Winners' Cup Semi-Final was a disgrace guaranteed to bring only harm to the game.

It did not surprise me when Terry Neill described the foul as one of the most vicious he had seen in 20 years.

How can you expect supporters to behave themselves in grounds if players commit mayhem on the pitch?

My concern is that England could face over-physical defences when they try to win the European Championship this summer. They had a taste of the rough stuff after the interval in the game against Spain in Barcelona. They countered the aggression by turning the other cheek.

England are geared to playing good football. They have little experience of trying to combat brawling tactics, nor do they have players who resort to strong-arm

methods.

Hopefully, good footballing teams like England, West Germany and Holland will set a pattern of fair play which the other sides will observe.

The key to behaviour in Italy will be held by the match officials. If referees are strong, the players will behave themselves. The best referees in Europe have been enlisted for the Championship, so I am hoping peace will reign.

No Sympathy

As I said earlier, football is physical. I tell my Crystal Palace players to tackle strongly but fairly. I don't want them booked, and, like Brian Clough and other managers, I have no sympathy with players who get into trouble with referees.

Hard but fair tackling is a joy to watch. Dave Mackay, Tottenham's Scottish international player in their great double-winning days, was a superb ball winner.

So was Nobby Stiles. Remember that glorious evening in the summer of 1966 when he stuck so close to Eusebio in the World Cup Semi between England and Por-

ABOVE: Bettega remonstrates with the referee over Tardelli's dismissal at Highbury. RIGHT: Martin Buchan shadows Brighton's Peter Ward. Manchester United's captain is hard but fair.



tugal that the "Black Panther" thought little Nobby would follow him into the Wembley dressing-room at half-time.

There are wonderful ball winners in today's game. Dave Watson (Southampton), Phil Thompson (Liverpool) David O'Leary (Arsenal), Colin Todd (Birmingham), Kenny Burns (Nottingham Forest), Roy McFarland (Derby), Mark Lawrenson (Brighton), Martin Buchan (Manchester United), Steve Perryman (Tottenham) and my own Billy Gilbert are a sample selection of strong tacklers who rarely upset referees.

Stories of vendettas between players, such as the Yorath-Souness confrontation, do nothing but harm and should be knocked on the head.

Thankfully, crime doesn't pay in the street or on the pitch. Marco Tardelli, one of Italy's most outstanding forwards, was ruled out of the return Cup-Winners' Cup Semi-Final leg between Juventus

and Arsenal when he was sent-off for a foul on Brady after he had been booked for refusing to retreat ten yards from a free-kick.

Players must make a determined effort to accept decisions gracefully. Villainy will never triumph. Nor should it, for the sake of football's future.

All the great teams are remembered for their football *not* their thuggery. Arsenal of the 1930's; Real Madrid of the late 1950's; Tottenham of the early 1960's; Manchester United's European Cup-winning team with Best and Charlton in their ranks; and Liverpool and Nottingham Forest in more recent times enhanced the game by playing football laced with gold.

Defensible

THE EMPEROR RULES

FROM England's point of view, the 1972 European Championship was the World Cup of two years earlier all over again.

Just as the West Germans had destroyed England's hopes in the Quarter-Finals in Mexico, so they did at the same stage once more.

And West Germany, with some glorious displays of football, deservedly went on to take the title.

With Franz Beckenbauer a true Emperor as mobile sweeper, Günter Netzer dominating the midfield and Gerd Müller up-front to seize on and ruthlessly exploit the flimsiest of chances, they brushed aside the opposition with almost contemptuous ease.

But, unlike the other British nations, England did at least qualify for the closing stages.

Northern Ireland's Group was won by ultimate Finalists Russia; Wales were never in with a real chance in a tough Group taken by Rumania; while the Scots left themselves with too much to do to qualify before Tommy Docherty took over to restore a bit of national pride.

Revitalised, they managed to beat Belgium — the eventual Group winners — but, by then, it was too late.

England were drawn in a relatively easy Group — taking 11

points out of 12 from their home and away games with Switzerland, Greece, and Malta with no problem at all.

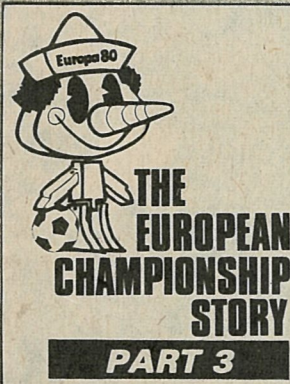
A Wembley point was surprisingly dropped to the Swiss, but the overall ease of the task of qualifying may well have lulled England into a false sense of security for what lay ahead.

One of those games — the 5-0 Wembley win over Malta — bordered on sheer farce.

At no point in the game did the ball cross the England goal-line, and not once did 'keeper Gordon Banks receive the ball direct from a Maltese player; all of whom seemed content to pack their own penalty-area, and keep the score down as low as possible.

Inevitably, West Germany — in the straight knock-out home-and-away Quarter-Finals — posed rather more problems. Which might be a bit of an understatement!

On a wet-and-windy April night at Wembley, with Gunter Netzer



After losing 3-1 at Wembley, England (dark shirts, left), could manage no more than a 0-0 draw against West Germany in the second-leg in Berlin.



1970-1972 COMPETITION

GROUP ONE

Czechoslovakia 1, Finland 1
Rumania 3, Finland 0
Wales 0, Rumania 0
Wales 1, Czechoslovakia 3
Finland 0, Wales 1
Czechoslovakia 1, Rumania 0
Finland 0, Czechoslovakia 4
Finland 0, Rumania 4
Wales 3, Finland 0
Czechoslovakia 1, Wales 0
Rumania 2, Czechoslovakia 1
Rumania 2, Wales 0
(Group winners: Rumania)

GROUP TWO

Norway 1, Hungary 3
France 3, Norway 1
Bulgaria 1, Norway 1
Hungary 1, France 1
Bulgaria 3, Hungary 0
Norway 1, Bulgaria 4
Norway 1, France 3

Hungary 2, Bulgaria 0
France 0, Hungary 2
Hungary 4, Norway 0
France 2, Bulgaria 1
Bulgaria 2, France 1
(Group winners: Hungary)

GROUP THREE

Greece 0, Switzerland 1
Malta 1, Switzerland 2
Malta 0, England 1
England 3, Greece 0
Switzerland 5, Malta 0
England 5, Malta 0
Malta 1, Greece 1
Switzerland 1, Greece 0
Greece 2, Malta 0
Switzerland 2, England 3
England 1, Switzerland 1
Greece 0, England 2
(Group winners: England)

GROUP FOUR

Spain 3, Northern Ireland 0
Cyprus 0, Northern Ireland 3

Northern Ireland 5, Cyprus 0
Cyprus 1, Russia 3
Cyprus 0, Spain 2
Russia 2, Spain 1
Russia 6, Cyprus 1
Russia 1, Northern Ireland 0
Northern Ireland 1, Russia 1
Spain 0, Russia 0
Spain 7, Cyprus 0
Northern Ireland 1, Spain 1
(Group winners: Russia)

GROUP FIVE

Denmark 0, Portugal 1
Scotland 1, Denmark 0
Belgium 2, Denmark 0
Belgium 3, Scotland 0
Portugal 2, Scotland 0
Denmark 1, Scotland 0
Portugal 5, Denmark 0
Denmark 1, Belgium 2
Scotland 2, Portugal 1
Scotland 1, Belgium 0
Portugal 1, Belgium 1

(Group winners: Belgium)

GROUP SIX

Eire 1, Sweden 1
Sweden 1, Eire 0
Austria 1, Italy 2
Italy 3, Eire 0
Eire 1, Italy 2
Eire 1, Austria 4
Sweden 1, Austria 0
Sweden 0, Italy 0
Austria 1, Sweden 0
Austria 6, Eire 0
Italy 2, Austria 2
Italy 3, Sweden 0

(Group winners: Italy)

GROUP SEVEN

Holland 1, Yugoslavia 1
East Germany 1, Holland 0
Luxembourg 0, East Germany 5
Yugoslavia 2, Holland 0
East Germany 2, Luxembourg 1
Holland 6, Luxembourg 0
Luxembourg 0, Yugoslavia 2



Franz Beckenbauer (white shirt, left) led the West German's victory in the Final against Russia. Manager Helmut Schoen receives the trophy (below). One of the surprise teams of the tournament were Belgium, who accounted for Italy in the Quarter-Finals (above).



Holland 3, East Germany 2
East Germany 1, Yugoslavia 2
Yugoslavia 0, East Germany 0
Luxembourg 0, Holland 8
Yugoslavia 2, Luxembourg 0
(Group winners: Yugoslavia)

GROUP EIGHT

Poland 3, Albania 0
West Germany 1, Turkey 1
Turkey 2, Albania 1
Albania 0, West Germany 1
Turkey 0, West Germany 3
Albania 1, Poland 1
West Germany 2, Albania 0
Poland 5, Turkey 1
Poland 1, West Germany 3
Albania 3, Turkey 0
West Germany 0, Poland 0
Turkey 1, Poland 0
(Group winners: West Germany)

QUARTER-FINALS

England 1, West Germany 3
West Germany 0, England 0

coolly bossing the midfield as if he owned the place, England were deservedly humbled 3-1.

In the Berlin second-leg with England desperately needing goals to wipe off the arrears Sir Alf Ramsey astonishingly reverted to a negative 4-4-2 formation.

True, it effectively took care of Netzer, subdued Muller, and earned a 0-0 draw. But, despite a couple of early near-misses, there just weren't enough England front-runners to score one goal, let alone the target of three.

Italy similarly lacked the attacking enterprise to dispose of Belgium — who, together with Russia and Hungary, sailed through to the Semi-Finals.

There Belgium gave Beckenbauer and Co. a much tougher task than England and it wasn't until late in the game that Muller scored his second goal to clinch matters at 2-1.

In the other Semi, a rather ponderous Russian side beat even more disappointing Hungarian opponents 1-0.

The Final itself was a bit of a let-down, not because of any lack of brilliance on the part of the winners, but by the absence of any opposition which ever looked likely to halt their streamlined steam-roller.

Even before Muller's opening 27th minute goal, the issue was never in any serious doubt and, but for a superbly brave performance by goalkeeper Rudakov, the 3-0 margin might well have been quite a bit bigger.

The few openings the Russians created were either muffed, or competently dealt with and further goals from Wimmer and Muller after the interval only rubbed salt in the wound.

The fact that Russia's only three shots of any real note all came from their hefty back-four men — one thunderous effort from Khurtsilava, which shook the bar, certainly meriting a bit better luck — only served to emphasise their woeful lack of midfield and attacking power.

For the more imaginative West Germans, however, it was a splendid and well-deserved victory and a foretaste of another triumph to come in the World Cup of two years later.

NEXT WEEK: Malcolm Macdonald's five star performance for England

Italy 0, Belgium 0
Belgium 2, Italy 1
Hungary 1, Rumania 1
Rumania 2, Hungary 2
Hungary 2, Rumania 1 (decider)
Yugoslavia 0, Russia 0
Russia 3, Yugoslavia 0

SEMI-FINALS

Belgium 1, West Germany 2 (Antwerp)
Russia 1, Hungary 0 (Brussels)

FINAL (Brussels: 18 June 1972)
(attendance: 70,000)

West Germany 3, Russia 0

WEST GERMANY: Maier, Hottges, Breitner, Beckenbauer, Schwarzenbeck, Wimmer, Haynkes, Hoeness, Muller, Netzer, Kremer.
RUSSIA: Rudakov, Dzodzuashvili, Khurtsilava, Kaplichnyi, Istomin, Troshkin, Kolotov, Baidnachy, Konkov (sub. Dolmatov), Banichevski (sub. Kozinkovich), Onishenko.
Scorers: Muller (2), Wimmer.

THIRD-PLACE MATCH

Belgium 2, Hungary 1

A VIDEO-RECORDING of 'Match of the Day' played at 4.30 the following Sunday morning triggered off a transfer which looks like bringing a breath of fresh air to British football.

The modest amount involved, £62,000 — and the Division concerned, the Third Division — are incidental. The money, you see, wasn't for a player. It was for the boardroom controlling interest in Rotherham United. It's a deal which could force many clubs next season to start examining their too Victorian attitudes to the modern game.

As attention focuses on Rotherham, quite a few palpitations could be recorded in some stale-thinking inner-chamber boardrooms.

The man capable of causing these upheavals, who was watching that early morning video playback when Jimmy Hill announced that Rotherham was for sale, is 37-year-old millionaire, football fanatic, Anton Johnson.

offered an 'open cheque' to sell. At his first shareholders meeting . . . an impromptu affair . . . a heckler unwittingly got everyone siding with Johnson.

It was clear to all the shareholders — especially as he stood behind the bar serving drinks — that he was no flashy newcomer regarding the club as a plaything. When he finds a suitable property he intends moving into the area so that he can personally apply the principles he puts into all his businesses.

"I classify running a football club the same as any other business . . . if you think of it as a hobby or a sport you will never get off the ground!" he said. "My happiest days are if I can open premises in opposition to others . . . say within three or four doors of each other . . . because competition is the best form of business. The people, at the end of the day, will go where they will get the best deal."

"Obviously I'm still very new . . .

offered. I'm trying to instil a young sort of attitude and he is certainly part and parcel of my future approach."

In a separate interview, Porterfield said "I've assessed the situation here and realise what I want, what I need and what has to be done. It will be done gradually and it will be done correctly. We've got to go out on the grass willing to compete and perform the way that we want to."

"For the £45,000 we got for David Gwyther I've bought three fine professionals. Graham Brown, the goalkeeper I got from York City, is playing superbly."

"I'm delighted to bring Vic Halom here from Oldham. He is keen to get on the coaching side . . . but first of all he is very important to me on the grass . . . organising and sorting out the game."

"I was very impressed with Phil Henson when I saw him a couple of times. He is skilful and potentially a very good player. For

The millionaire who won the battle for Rotherham

He hasn't made any business mistakes yet. His empire includes successful night clubs, pubs, hairdressers, butchers, electronics firms and farms.

On top of his business acumen his personal achievements bring a new dimension to the term 'entrepreneur' for he studied at the National College, is a qualified chef — he cooked for the Royal Family three times — is a qualified health inspector and has been a session singer for ten years.

One of his records, 'Come And Stay Awhile', reached number 18 in the German charts.

He might have been a professional footballer. After playing in goal for local clubs in the Grays, Essex area he went on to play for Eton Manor, Forest Gate and East London Schoolboys. He passed a trial with West Ham when he was 16 but his father persuaded him to concentrate on his studies . . .

When he heard on that video that Rotherham shares were available, he moved fast. He was soon on his way to the club by helicopter with his legal advisors, his solicitor and accountant. "They went through the books and gave me a decision right away," he said. "Mind you, if the position had been black I would still have bought it . . . I had been dying to get hold of a club."

There were other competitors, including Warner Brothers, and since his takeover he has been

I've still got the wrapper on . . . but I feel that I can get Rotherham into the First Division before 1985.

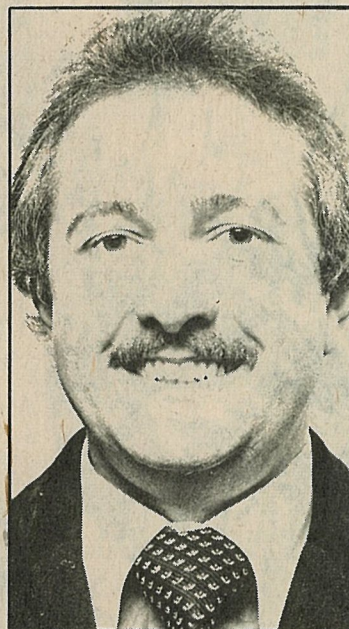
"Presentation is always foremost with me whether its in hairdressing, shops, clubs or pubs. The place has got to look clean . . . its got to look inviting so that the customers will want to come to the premises and once there feel nice and relaxed."

'Complimentary'

"What I've got to do is to coax out whole families to see a game of football on Saturdays. One of my ideas is to give complimentary tickets to youngsters in primary schools whose parents will accompany them to matches."

"I'm going to have areas completely enclosed for children and pensioners. We must also make sure we keep the two sets of supporters apart. Obviously there are ground improvements I want to introduce . . . in the short term there's a new strip I want to bring in . . . and I've got professional musicians composing a new tune."

The manager he has entrusted to stabilise the side is former Sheffield Wednesday captain Ian Porterfield. Johnson explained why Ian got the job: "He was the most enthusiastic applicant and, out of 30 people, Ian was about the only one who didn't want to talk first about the money he would be getting. All he wanted to talk of was the challenge the position



ANTON JOHNSON

the price I paid for him, at 26 years of age, he is a very good investment for the club."

Rotherham have never been in Division One but they have had several spells in the Second. With the energetic Anton Johnson in charge they could become one of the hallmarks of the game. SHOOT will certainly keep its readers in the picture about the developments at this one-time outpost in South Yorkshire.

LES COMER

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Ask the Expert

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Shortest official

Who was the shortest referee ever to handle matches in the Football League?

ELFED WYN JONES,
NORTH WALES

● That's a bit of an odd question, Elfed, but I reckon I've got the answer.

Don't think you'd find anyone shorter than Mr J. Talks, of Lincoln, who was on the League list just before World War One.

Seems this mini-ref was shorter than a corner-flag — at just 4ft 9½ins!

Greek opponents

Has a Greek side ever met Everton in a European tie?

PHILIPIDIS COSTAS,
GREECE

● Yes, Philipidis — Everton were one of the victims of Panathinaikos on their way to the 1970-71 European Cup Final.

The clubs were paired in the Quarter-Finals — with a 1-1 draw at Goodison Park, and a 0-0 draw in Athens.

Panathinaikos went through on the away-goals rule — and later on to Wembley, where they were beaten 2-0 by Ajax in the Final.

SHORT PASSES

● Darlington's colours are white shirts with red trim; black shorts, and black stockings.

(MALCOLM KIRBY, Newcastle)

● Manchester United's winning team v. Benfica in the 1968 European Cup Final was: Stepney, Brennan, Dunne, Crerand, Foulkes, Stiles, Best, Kidd, Charlton, Sadler, Aston.

(THOMAS KOUTROUBOS, Greece)

● Andy King played 33 League games for Luton before joining Everton in April, 1976.

(DAVID BENNETT, Solihull)

● Roger Hunt scored a club-record 245 League goals for Liverpool between 1959 and 1969.

(DALE FOX, Halifax)

● The Football Association was founded in 1863; the Scottish Football Association in 1873.

(KUNLE AIYEOLA, Nigeria)

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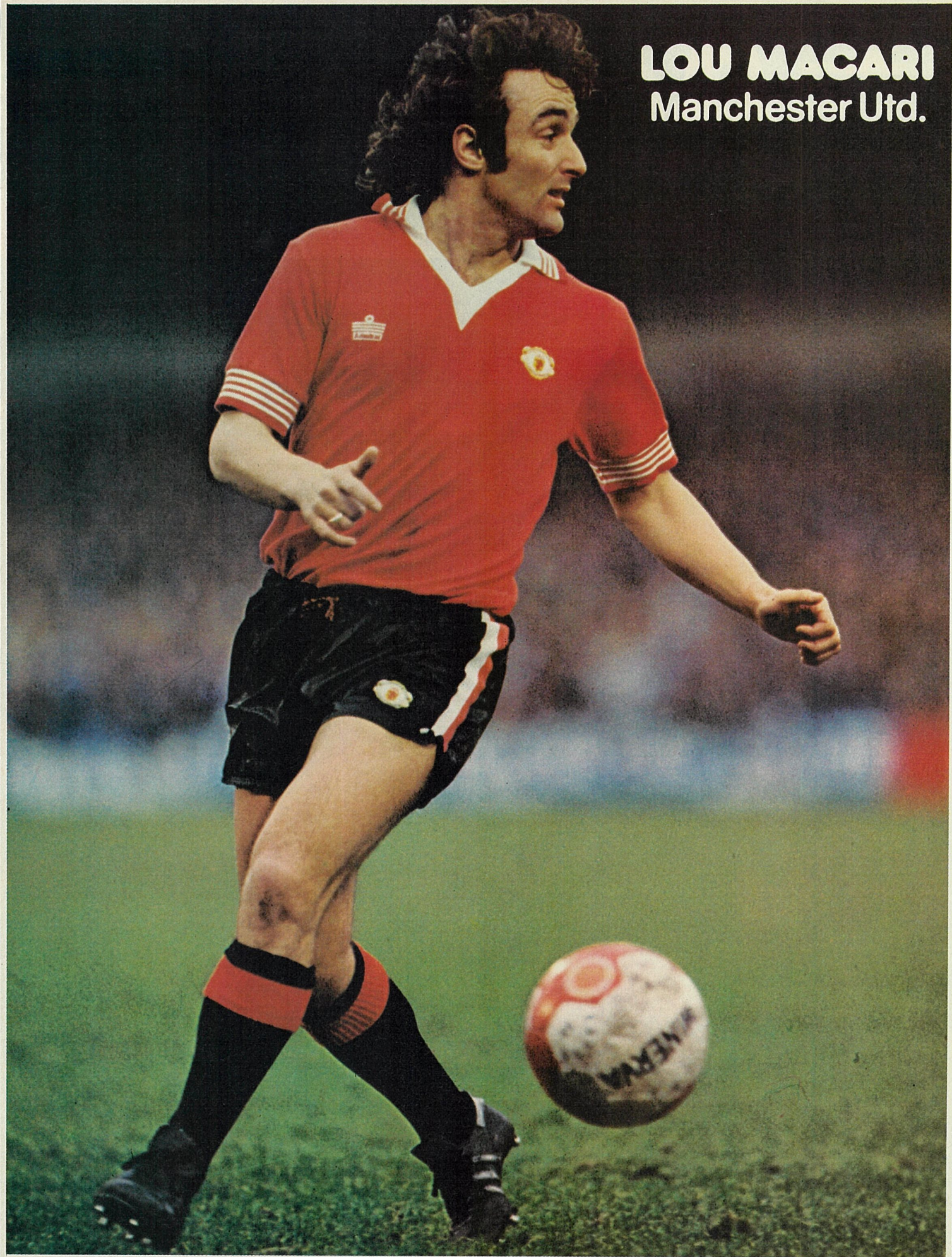
Admiral



ENGLAND ENGLAND ENGLAND ENGLAND



LOU MACARI
Manchester Utd.



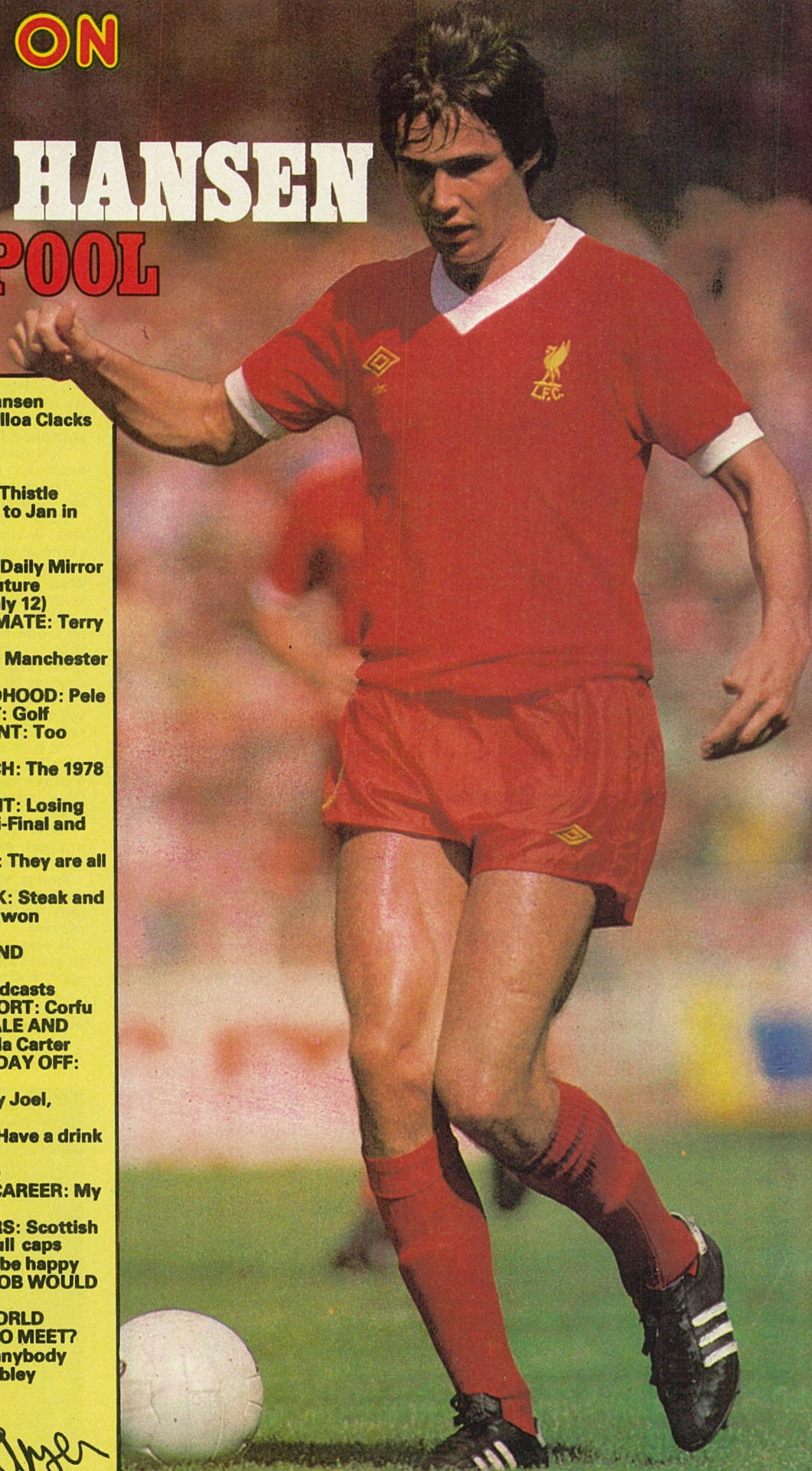
SHOOT!

FOCUS ON

ALAN HANSEN LIVERPOOL

FULL NAME: Alan David Hansen
BIRTHPLACE: Sauchie by Alloa Clacks
BIRTHDATE: June 13, 1955
HEIGHT: 6ft 2ins
WEIGHT: 13st
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Partick Thistle
MARRIED: Getting married to Jan in June
CAR: None
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Daily Mirror
FAVOURITE PLAYER: My future brother-in-law Neil (he's only 12)
MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE: Terry McDermott
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Manchester United
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: Pele
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Golf
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Too many for my liking
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: The 1978 European Cup Final
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing last season's F.A. Cup Semi-Final and my Scotland form
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: They are all the same
FAVOURITE FOOD + DRINK: Steak and champagne when we have won something
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND DISLIKES: Sports programmes/Political broadcasts
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Corfu
FAVOURITE T.V. STAR, MALE AND FEMALE: John Cleese, Linda Carter
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Horse racing
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Billy Joel, Commodores
AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE: Have a drink and chat about the game
BEST FRIEND: Many I hope
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My father
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Scottish Under-21, Under-23 and full caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? I don't know
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Actor Jack Nicholson and anybody presenting medals at Wembley

Alan Hansen



SHOOT!



HARD LUCK HAWLEY

SUNDERLAND striker John Hawley has discovered the ups and downs of football life since joining the Roker Park club from Leeds last October.

He arrived with glowing praise from his new manager Ken Knighton, who backed his faith in Hawley by paying £200,000 for him.

Knighton said Hawley was a credit to his profession for the way he had conducted the transfer negotiations — and the thousands of Sunderland fans soon joined the manager in his appreciation of the player.

They watched in delight as Hawley made the sort of debut players dream about — three goals in a 4-0 home thrashing of Charlton.

It was only the second hat-trick of his career — the other came in Sunday League football in Hull — and the big striker describes it as the high spot of his career.

His joy was short-lived because an amazing run of injuries has restricted him to just eight games in four months — and he completed only five of them.

"It's not that I'm an injury prone player," says Hawley. "My run of bad luck is just one of those things."

"Last season, I missed only one match because of injury, even though I'm the sort of player who often takes a buffeting from defenders."

"It's been very frustrating not being able to

help the team in their push for promotion, but I still hope to be back before the end of the season."

Hawley has been troubled by hamstring and groin injuries, the worst coming after a collision with Bolton goalkeeper Jim McDonagh in a Third Round F.A. Cup-tie at Roker Park.

Strangely, McDonagh was also involved in the collision which brought Hawley his longest lay-off before joining Sunderland. It happened while he was at Hull and left him with a squashed lung and three cracked ribs.

"It's just a coincidence, but I'll be trying to avoid Jim for some time," Hawley joked.

The injuries mean Hawley has spent much of his time at Roker Park on the treatment table. "There's nothing worse than having treatment and doing body exercises when there's no game at the end of the week," he said.

Hawley is now settling into his new house on Wearside and ready to start taking an interest in the region's antique market.

It is his interest and knowledge of antiques — he's one of the owners of an antique shop in Hull — which made Hawley one of football's most interesting characters during his early days at Hull.

He was in the first team at Boothferry Park, yet remained an amateur at a time when his team-mates were picking up good wages.

"It had nothing to do with any lack of ambition," he recalls. "I didn't have to rely on football for a living, so I could afford to take my time before deciding whether to turn professional."

After his move to Leeds, Hawley retained his interest in the business and added another string to his bow — radio interviewing.

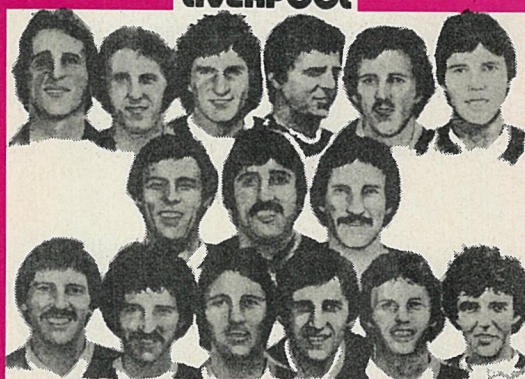
Along with centre-half Paul Hart, he presented "The Leeds United Show", a weekly look at the club, including interviews with players.

It was a great success and there were plans to give Hawley other interviewing jobs outside sport and send him on a BBC course in London.

"I enjoyed presenting the show and it's something I might be interested in doing when my career is over."

"In the meantime, my sole aim is to help Sunderland back into the First Division."

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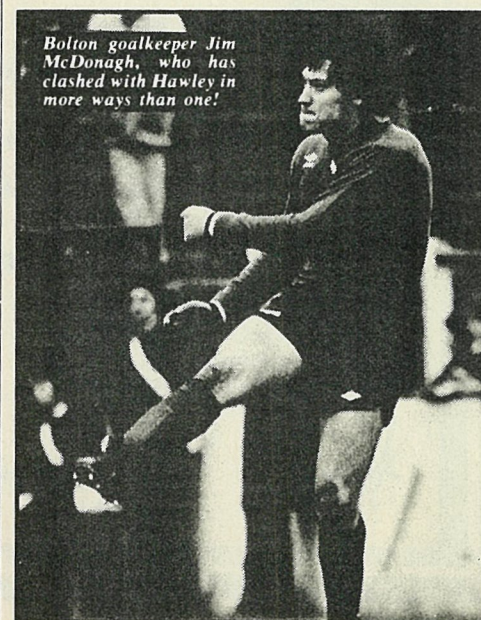
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SWAIN'S SAVED VILLA A BIG FEE

TO say Aston Villa's Ken Swain didn't fancy playing at right-back is putting it mildly.

At the start of the season, in fact, it took all manager Ron Saunders' powers of persuasion to convince the ex-teacher to move back from his normal attacking role.

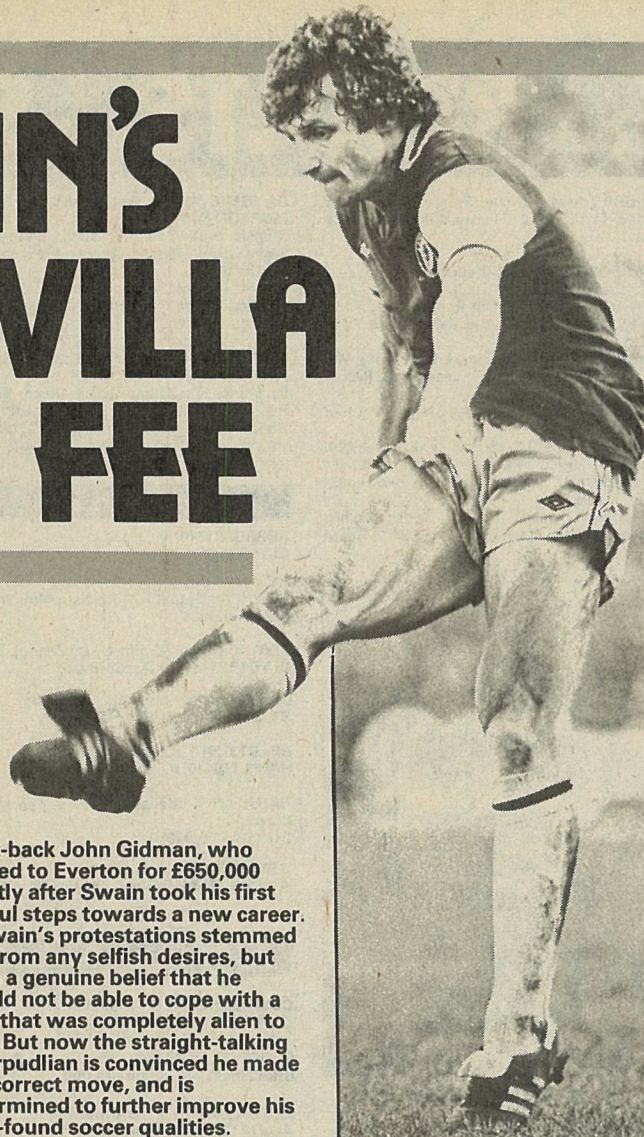
Bought for £100,000 from Chelsea as a midfield player or front-runner, 24-year-old Swain had never even thought about playing as a defender. That was until Saunders made his suggestion last August.

Swain argued he wasn't suited to the role, he had no experience, and the proposed move could jeopardise Villa's chances of success.

But eight months later the conversion is complete. Swain has adjusted remarkably to his new position and saved Saunders the price of a replacement for England

right-back John Gidman, who moved to Everton for £650,000 shortly after Swain took his first fateful steps towards a new career.

Swain's protestations stemmed not from any selfish desires, but from a genuine belief that he would not be able to cope with a task that was completely alien to him. But now the straight-talking Liverpoolian is convinced he made the correct move, and is determined to further improve his new-found soccer qualities.



Said Swain: "When the manager asked me if I'd play at right-back for a few games I must admit I wasn't too happy about the prospect. At the time it was a stop-gap measure because the future of John Gidman was uncertain. I wanted to continue establishing myself in an attacking role.

"But because the team was in a fix I agreed and now I feel it's the best thing I've done in my career. I was surprised at how quickly I settled down. I expected to be given one or two chasings until I got my bearings, and things were a little hairy at first.

"But I soon managed to get things sorted out, and though I had been worried about how I might cope in certain situations I survived and the confidence started to flow.

'Enjoyable'

"The fact I had been a forward worked to my advantage rather than against me, because I found I could anticipate what my opponent would do.

"Being a defender may not be as glamorous as the man they pay to stick the ball in the net, but it is equally as satisfying and just as enjoyable. I love every minute."

While Aston Villa's hopes of a successful season are now in ruins, the money-saving conversion of Ken Swain is certainly one shaft of sunlight for Ron Saunders. With a season in his new position behind him, the ex-Chelsea man could become one of his side's major influences next year.

SAUNDERS FUMING OVER DUMBARTON'S SHARP MOVE

THE modest £150,000 transfer fee that took Dumbarton's teenage striker Graeme Sharp to Everton recently has left Aston Villa manager Ron Saunders an angry man.

Saunders exploded when he heard that Dumbarton had sold their hottest property to the Goodison Park club and he accused the Scottish First Division side of bringing the game into disrepute.

For the Villa boss insisted he had already agreed a deal with Dumbarton before Everton clinched the transfer.

"It's a disgraceful way to do business," says Saunders, who knows all about picking up a bargain or two in the Scottish market. Andy Gray and Allan Evans are just two of his smart signings.

"I agreed a deal on Tuesday, March 25, but Dumbarton rang me the following night to say they had accepted an offer from Everton.

"How could they do that when they had already accepted one from us? It's the sort of thing that brings the game into disrepute."

Saunders added: "I am certainly not blaming Everton or Gordon Lee — only Dumbarton for break-

ing their word to me."

On the night Saunders says Dumbarton agreed a price with his club, Gordon Lee was watching Sharp (below) in action against Arbroath. He left before the end ... and missed his future striker scoring a splendid late goal



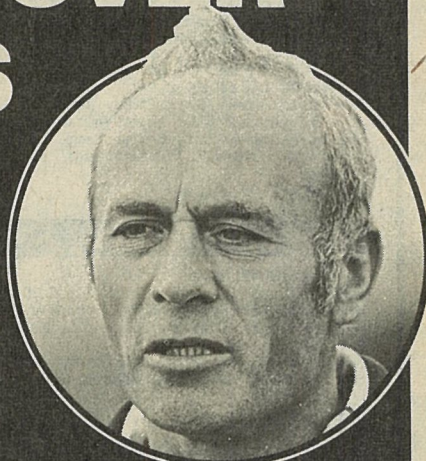
although his side lost 3-2.

"I've been trying to get a chance to go up to Scotland to have a look at the lad for months," says the Goodison Park manager, who was obviously impressed by the reports on the 19-year-old goal-grabber.

"That game was the first opportunity I had to see him in action. Although I didn't see his goal I saw enough to make me think he can do a good job for Everton.

"He is enthusiastic and has a lot of potential. We need a good young striker and he fits that bill."

Sharp preferred to go to Everton rather than Villa and Dumbarton boss Davy Wilson says: "Graeme had a full week's training at Villa Park. They had every opportunity to sign him then. Prior to agreeing the fee with Everton I hadn't spoken to Ron Saunders for weeks."



Wilson also adds: "Everton came in with the best deal for Dumbarton and the player wanted to join them. What am I supposed to do?"

It seems that Everton have done a marvellous piece of business, for Rangers and Aberdeen were also reported to be interested in the youngster who netted 15 goals in 29 games for the part-time Boghead Park club.

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Saturday, February 23
(continued)

Third Division

CARLISLE (3) 3 (Hamilton, Ludlam, Bonnyman)
HULL (2) 2 (Edwards, Roberts G) 4,263
Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, McDonald, Ludlam, Winstanley, McVitie, Bonnyman, Beardsley (Bannon), Hamilton, Staniforth.
Hull: Norman; Nisbet, DeVries, Haigh, Croft, Roberts (D), Tait, Roberts (G), Edwards, Bannister, Farley.

CHESTERFIELD (1) 2 (Crawford, Birch pen)
GRIMSBY (3) 3 (Drinkell, Cumming, Kilmore) 13,867
Chesterfield: Tingay; Tart, O'Neill, Ridley, Green, Kowalski, Birch, Moss, Walker, Salmons, Crawford.
Grimsby: Batch; Stone, Moore (K), Waters, Wigginton, Crombie, Brolly, Kilmore, Drinkell (Ford), Mitchell, Cumming.

GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Walker) 5,800
BARNSELY (0) 1 (Glavin)
Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Barker, Bruce, Weatherly, Crabbe, Nicholl (Jolley), Duncan, Walker, Price, Richardson.
Barnsley: Pierce; Joyce, Chambers, Glavin, McCarthy, Cooper, Hunter, Lester, Banks, Parker, Aylott.

MILLWALL (1) 3 (Towner 2, Sittion) 4,893
OXFORD (0) 0
Millwall: Jackson; Sittion, Roberts, Chatterton, Tagg, Blyth, Towner, Seaman (Coleman), Shinton, Lyons, Kinsella.
Oxford: Brown; Fogg, Watson, Briggs, Cooke, Jeffrey, Taylor, Brock, Foley, Berry (Hodgson), McGrogan.

PLYMOUTH (0) 0
BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Garner) 6,918
Plymouth: Crudginton; James, Harrison, Randall, Foster, Phillipson-Masters, Hodges, Cooper, Sims, Bason, Kemp.
Blackburn: Arnold; Rathbone, Branagan, Kendall, Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherston, Crawford, Garner, McKenzie, Parkes.

READING (0) 2 (Earles, Sanchez) 8,559
SHEFF. UTD. (0) 1 (Charles)
Reading: Death; Henderson, White, Bowman, Hetzke, Moreline, Earles, Williams (Heale), Kearns, Sanchez, Wanklyn.
Sheff. Utd: Richardson; Cutbush, Tibbott, Speight (Matthews), McPhail, Jones, Garner, Charles, Butlin, Bourne, Sabella.

SHEFF. WED. (2) 5 (McCulloch 3, Curran, King) 20,557
ROTHERHAM (0) 0
Sheff. Wed: Bolder, Strutt, Grant, Pickering, Smith, Hornsby, Taylor, Johnson, Mellor, McCulloch (King), Curran.
Rotherham: Ogden; Forrest, Breckin, Tiler, Stancliffe, Green, Gooding, McEwan, Fern, Rhodes, Henson.

SWINDON (0) 2 (McHale, Stroud) 10,743
WIMBLEDON (0) 1 (Denny)
Swindon: Allan; Lewis, Stroud, McHale, Tucker, Carter, Miller, Kamara, Rowland, Mayes, Williams.
Wimbledon: Goddard; Briley, Bowgett, Denny, Smith, Cunningham, Ketteridge, Parsons, Leslie, Cork, Lewington.
CHESTER v EXETER postponed.

Fourth Division

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0
YORK (0) 0 3,201
Bournemouth: Smeulders; Cunningham, Ferns, Holder, Impey, Moore, Heffernan, MacDougall (Chambers), Butler, Massey, Miller.
York: Crawford; Hood, Walsh, Ford, Faulkner, Clements, Randall, Ferebee, Eccles, McDonald, McGhie.

CREWE (0) 1 (Palios) 2,528
HEREFORD (0) 0
Crewe: Grobbelaar; Wilkinson, Bowers, Hunter, Scott, Proppett, McMahon, Guy (Coyle), Conroy, Palios, Nelson.
Hereford: Hughes; Price, Burrows, Spiring, Layton, Thomas (McGrellis), Feeley, Marshall, Binney, White, Jones.

HALIFAX (0) 1 (Evans pen) 2,129
DARLINGTON (0) 1 (Hamilton)
Halifax: Kilner; Dunleavy, Hutt, Evans, Harris, Hendrie, Firth, Kennedy, Dryhurst, Goodman, Smith.
Darlington: Owers; Nattress, Cochrane, Ball, Craig, Smith, McLean, Charlton, Stalker, Hamilton, Walsh.

NORTHAMPTON (2) 2 (Farrington, Denyer) 2,592
ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (Needham)
Northampton: Poole; Walker, Sendercock, Byatt, Gage, Farrington, Denyer, Sandy, McCaffrey, Bowen, Sargent.

ALDERSHOT: Johnson; Edwards, Wooler, Dixon, Bennett, Youlden, Crosby, Brodie, Garwood, Needham, Lucas (Green).

PETERBOROUGH (0) 2 (Kellock, Phillips) 3,796
ROCHDALE (0) 0
Peterborough: Waugh, Carmichael, Phillips, Guy (McVay), Slough, Foster, Quow, Kellock, Cliss, Syrett, Robson.
Rochdale: Watson; Hart (Bannon), Weir, Scaife, Waldron, Taylor, Esser, O'Loughlin, Jones, Seal, Hilditch.

PORTSMOUTH (2) 4 (Brisley, Gregory 2, Cowling o.g.) 19,203
HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 (Kindon pen)
Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Styles, Brisley, Aizlewood, Garner (Perrin), Gregory, Laidlaw, Hemmerman, Bryant, Rogers.
Huddersfield: Rankin, Brown, Purdie, Stanton (Fletcher), Sutton, Hanvey, Laverick, Hart, Kindon, Robins, Cowling.



David Gregory of Portsmouth

PORT VALE (1) 1 (Chamberlain) 3,720
HARTLEPOOL (0) 1 (Houchen)
Port Vale: Dance; Keenan, Griffiths, Elsby, Harwood, Sproson, Beech, Bromage, Wright, Sealy, Chamberlain.
Hartlepool: Burleigh; Sweeney, Carr, Lawrence, Fagan, Normanton, Linacre, Gorry, Newton, Houchen, Hampton.

SCUNTHORPE (1) 1 (Pilling) 3,672
LINCOLN (0) 0
Scunthorpe: Gordon; Davy, Peacock, Pugh, Deere, Oates, O'Berg, Pilling, Green, Cammack, Partridge.
Lincoln: McManus; Thompson, Neal, Shipley, Peeke, Carr, Hobson, Keeley, Hartford, Ramsey (Cunningham), Bell.

TORQUAY (0) 0
WALSALL (1) 1 (Penn) 4,459
Torquay: Turner; Twichin, Ritchie, Wilson, Bourne, Sermanni (Levy), Jones, Davies, Coffill, Cooper, Murphy.
Walsall: Green; Macken, Mower, Sbragia, Serella, Paul, Penn, Waddington, McDonough, Buckley, Caswell.

WIGAN v DONCASTER postponed.

Scottish Premier

ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Archibald) 10,500
KILMARNOCK (2) 2 (Street, Garner)
Aberdeen: Leighton; Kennedy, Hamilton, McLeish, Garner (Watson), Miller, Strachan, Archibald, Scanlon, Jarvie, Hewitt (Davidson).
Kilmarnock: McCulloch; Welsh, McLean, Clark, Clarke, McDicken, Houston, Mauchien, Gibson, Cramond, Street, (Cairney).
CELTIC (2) 2 (McCluskey, MacLeone) 23,000
Celtic: Latchford; Sneddon, McGrain, Aitken, McDonald, MacLeod, Provan, McCluskey, Lennox, Sullivan, Doyle.
Dundee: Donaldson, Millar, Schaedler, McGeachie, Glennie, Shirra, Fletcher (Barr), Mackie, Fleming, Sinclair, Murphy.

DUNDEE UTD. (1) 1 (Pettigrew) 6,700
HIBS (0) 0
Dundee Utd: McAlpine; Philip, Kopel, Fleming (Addison), Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Sturrock, Pettigrew, Holt, Payne.
Hibs: McArthur; Brazil, Lambie, Rae, Paterson, McNamara (Hutchinson), Callachan, MacLeod, Cormack, Campbell, Duncan.

RANGERS (3) 3 (Russell, Smith, MacDonald J) 25,000
MORTON (1) 1 (Hutchison)
Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson, Stevens, Forsyth, Smith, Cooper, Russell, Johnstone, Fulton, Redford, MacDonald (J).
Morton: Baines; Hayes, Holmes, Miller (Scott), McLaren, Brown, Thompson, Hutchison, (Mauchien), Tolmie.

ST. MIRREN (1) 3 (Logan, Somner, Stark) 7,797
PARTICK (0) 0
St. Mirren: Thompson; Young, Munro, Richardson, Fulton, Copland, Bone, Stark, Somner, Logan, Weir.
Partick: Rough; McKinnon (Gibson), Whittaker, Campbell, McAdam, Anderson (Wilson), Doyle, Melrose, O'Hara, Jardine, Park.

Scottish First

ARBROATH (0) 0
CLYDE (0) 0 907
Arbroath: Kidd, Irvine.
Ayr (0) 0
Motherwell (2) 5 (McLaughlin 2, Soutar, Kidd, Irvine) 4,302
Berwick (2) 2 (Smith G, Davidson) 1,056
Clydebank (1) 1 (McCormack)
Dunfermline (0) 1 (McNaughton) 3,000
St. Johnstone (0) 0
Hearts (0) 1 (O'Connor) 5,416
Hamilton (0) 0

RAITH (3) 4 (Ballantyne 2, 1 pen., Harrow, Carroll) 1,400
DUMBARTON (0) 0
Stirling (0) 0
Airdrie (2) 3 (McGuire, Lapsley pen., Clark) 1,500

Scottish Second

COWDENBEATH (0) 2 (Liddle 2) 300
Q o S (1) 2 (Phillips 2)
E. Fife (2) 2 (Mitchell, Kirk) 605
Brechin (1) 1 (Campbell 1 pen)
E. Stirling (1) 1 (Ashwood) 500
Alloa (1) 2 (McIntosh, McLean)
Falkirk (1) 1 (Leetion) 2,000
Albion (0) 0
Forfar (0) 1 (McPhee) 1,300
Montrose (0) 2 (Walker, Murray)
Meadowbank (0) 0
Stenhousemuir (1) 1 (Hancock) 231
Queen's Park (0) 2 (Gillespie J 2) 825
Stranraer (0) 0

Bass Irish Cup

(Quarter-Finals)

BALLYMENA UNITED (0) 3 (Malone 2, McQuiston)
PORTADOWN (1) 2 (Campbell, Gordon)
Ballymena Utd: White; Beattie, Worthington, McCulloch, Jackson, Jess, Mullin (P), Sloan, McQuiston, Malone, Mullin (G).
Portadown: McCollum; Smyth, Edgar, Topley, Kilburn, Cleary, Gordon, Alexander, Campbell, Donegan, Quinn.

GLENAVON (0) 0
CRUSADERS (0) 0
Glenavon: Lennox; Davey, McGuigan, Clarke, Stitt, Donnelly, Sheppard, Kane (McDonald), Armstrong, Tully, O'Kane.
Crusaders: McDonald; Thompson, Gorman, Mulhall, Gillespie, McPolin, Kennedy, Currie, Byrne, King, Rice (Patterson).

LINFIELD (2) 4 (Rafferty, McKeown (pen), Anderson, Jameson)
GLENTORAN (0) 0
Linfield: Dunlop; Garrett, Hayes, Jameson, Rafferty, McKeown, Nixon, McKee, Feeney, Dorman, Anderson.
Glentoran: Matthews; McCreery, Strain, Walsh, Moore, Gracey, McFall (Irvine), Porter, Blackledge, Houston, Jamison.

R.U.C. (1) 1 (Bell)
COLERAINE (0) 1 (Dickson)
R.U.C.: Peden; McKee, Cooley, Keatley, Crozier, Gardiner, Alexander, Crowe, Bell, McCartney, McFarland.
Coleraine: Magee; McDowell (R), McNutt, Beckett, Hutton, McDowell (S) (McConaghy), ihon, Healy, Platt, Dickson, Moffatt.

Sunday, February 24

League of Ireland

BOHEMIANS (0) 0
SLIGO ROVERS (0) 0
Bohemians: Byrne (W); Whelan, Brady, Kelly, Keogh, O'Riordan, Lawless, McCormack, Byrne (M), Joyce, Gregg.
Sligo Rovers: Patterson; Fielding, O'Doherty (D), O'Doherty (G) (Mannion), Rutherford, Sheridan, McLoughlin, Patton, Gradley, Skeffington, Cavanagh.

DROGHEDA UNITED (2) 2 (Myers, Doran)
CORK UNITED (0) 0
Drogheda Utd: Forrestal; Haughey, Cameron, Campbell, Ferguson, Doran, Freaney (Hines), Myers, Byrne, Tuite (Cooke), Carthy.
Cork Utd: Ludzic; Punch, Grohan, Sheehan, Madden, Keane, Nodwell, Neiland, Lane (J) (Waters), McCarthy, Lane (R).

FINN HARPS (2) 2 (McDowell, Logan)
LIMERICK UNITED (0) 3 (Duggan, Kennedy, Hand)
Finn Harps: McDermott; Ferry, Monagle, McDowell, Sheridan, Duffy, Logan, McElwaine, McGrory, Minnock, McCool.
Limerick Utd: Fitzpatrick; Nolan, Ryan (Kennedy), O'Mahony, Storan, Meaney, Hand, Morris, Delamere, Walsh, Duggan.

GALWAY ROVERS (0) 0
HOME FARM (0) 1 (King (pen))
Galway Rovers: Lally; Daly (Herrick), Murphy, Sheehan, McDaid, Nolan, Mannion, Fay (Quinlivan), Bonnar, Humphries, Gaynor.
Home Farm: Finnerty; Maher, King, Greslin, Brady, Williams (Thomas), Cervi (Stephens), Neville, Craig, Archibald, McCluskey.

ST. PATRICK'S ATH (2) 3 (O'Connor, Jameson, Carthy (pen))
SHAMROCK ROVERS (3) 3 (Treacy, Campbell, Bayly)
St Pat's Ath: Grace; Higgins, Wright, Roche, Daly, Malone, O'Connor, Hynes, Barron (O'Donnell), Jameson, Carthy.
Shamrock Rovers: O'Neill; Kenny, Synnott, Burke, Mulligan (Bayly), Maher, Gannon, Gaffney, Treacy, Buckley, Campbell.

SHELBORNE (1) 1 (Nugent)
ATHLONE TOWN (3) 4 (Wyse, Davis 2, O'Connor)
Shelbourne: Dunne; Dillon, Cleary, Boyle, Carney, Byrne, Moody, Martin (O'Dwyer), Brunton (McMahon), Donnelly, Nugent.
Athlone Town: Smyth; Feniuk, McCue, Fullam, Larkin (Conway (T)), O'Connor, Devlin, Clarke, Conway (J), Wyse, Davis.

THURLES TOWN (0) 3 (Steedman 2 (1 pen), Sheehy)
UCD (0) 1 (Moran)
Thurles Town: Dalton; Doran, McQuaid, Tierney, O'Brien, Heffernan, Steedman (Jenkins), Lawson, Sheehy, Lyons, Ingoldsby.
UCD: McCabe; McKeown, Fox, McShane, McDonnell, McGovern, Cassidy, Moran, Drury (Turton), Dignam, Murphy.

WATERFORD (0) 2 (Murray (pen), Wallace)
DUNDALK (0) 0
Waterford: Thomas; O'Mahony, Gardiner, Finucane, Dunphy, Meagan, Kirk, Madigan, Wallace, McCarthy (Jackson), Murray (Hall).
Dundalk: Blackmore; McConville, Lawlor, Keely (Mangan), Dunning, Flanagan, Byrne, Daly, Braddish, Duff (Crawley), Harkin.

Monday, February 25

Third Division

SOUTHEND (1) 2 (Mercer 2) 3,542
READING (0) 2 (Kearns, Sanchez)
Southend: Keeley; Moody, Yates, Stead, Hadley, Cusack, Gray, Pountney, Spence, Mercer, Otulakowski.
Reading: Death; Joslyn, White, Bowman, Wood, Moreline, Earles, Williams, Kearns, Sanchez, Wanklyn (Heale).

Tuesday, February 26

First Division

WOLVES (0) 1 (Richards) 36,693
LIVERPOOL (0) 0
Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Berry Hibbit, Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.
Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case (Highway), Fairclough, McDermott, Souness.

LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORERS...

Second Division

CHARLTON (0) 0
WATFORD (0) 0 6,860
 Charlton: Johns, Hazell, Warman, Tydeman, Berry, Madden, Walsh, Hales, Ostergaard (Powell), Walker, Gritt.
 Watford: Steele, Henderson, Harrison, Patching, Sims, Bolton, Blissett, Booth, Jenkins, Train, Rostron.

FULHAM (1) 1 (Maybank)
BRISTOL R (1) 1 (Williams) 4,744
 Fulham: Peyton, Money, Strong, Lock, Banton, Gale, Gayle, Beck, Davies, Maybank, Marinello.
 Bristol R: Thomas, Jones, Cooper, Aitken, Taylor, Prince, Barrowclough, Williams, Penny, Mabbutt, Puls.

NOTTS CO (1) 1 (O'Brien pen)
WREXHAM (1) 1 (Edwards) 6,684
 Notts Co: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Hunt, Stubbs, Blockley, McCulloch, Masson, Christie, Mann, Mair.
 Wrexham: Davies, Hill, Jones Davis, Roberts (Kenworthy), Fox, Vinter, Sutton, Edwards, McNeil, Carodus.

Third Division

CARLISLE (0) 0
SHEFF. WED. (2) 2 (Taylor, McCulloch) 6,223
 Carlisle: Swinburne, Hoolickin, McCartney, MacDonald, Ludlam, Winstanley, McCutcheon, Bonnyman (Houghton), Beardsley, Hamilton, Bannon.
 Sheff. Wed: Bolder, Blackhall, Grant, Smith, Pickering, Hornsby, Taylor, Johnson, Mellor, McCulloch, Curran.

GILLINGHAM (0) 0
CHESTERFIELD (1) 1 (Moss) 4,726
 Gillingham: Hillyard, Sharpe, Overton, Bruce, Weatherly (Richardson), Crabbe, Walker, Hughes Price, Westwood, Duncan.
 Chesterfield: Tingay, Tarr, O'Neill, Ridley, Green, Kowalski, Birch, Moss, Walker, Salmons, Crawford.

SHEFF. UTD. (1) 1 (Cottam o.g.)
CHESTER (0) 1 (Rush) 13,738
 Sheff. Utd: Richardson, Cutbush, Garner, Tibbott, McPhail, Matthews, de Goey, Bourne, Butlin, Charles, Sabella.
 Chester: Millington, Raynor, Walker, Jeffries, Cottam, Fear, Sutcliffe, Jones, Rush, Phillips, Henderson.

WIMBLEDON (0) 0
BURY (0) 1 (Madden) 3,030
 Wimbledon: Goddard, Briley, Bowgett (Denny), Galliers, Smith, Cunningham, Ketteridge, Parsons, Leslie, Cork, Lewington.
 Bury: Forrest, Constantine, Graham, McIlwraith, Waddington, Howard, Halford, Wilson, Johnson, Hilton, Madden.

Fourth Division

DARLINGTON (2) 3 (Stalker, Walsh, Hamilton)
BRADFORD C. (2) 4 (Hutchins, McNiven 2, Staniforth) 2,483
 Darlington: Owers, Nattress, Cochrane, Ball, Craig, Smith, McLean, Charlton, Stalker, Hamilton, Walsh.
 Bradford C: Smith, Podd (Staniforth), Wood, Bates, Baines, Cooper, Black, Dolan, Campbell, McNiven, Hutchins.

NEWPORT (0) 2 (Gwyther, Lowndes)
DONCASTER (0) 1 (Warboys) 4,692
 Newport: Plumley, Waldren, Relish, Bruton (D), Oakes, Davies (Tynan), Vaughan, Lowndes, Gwyther, Aldridge, Moore.
 Doncaster: Peacock, Russell, Snodin, Lister, Lally, Dowd, Flanagan, Mell (Nimmo), Warboys, Little, Bentley.

Under-21 International

W. GERMANY (1) 1 (Klotz)
SCOTLAND (0) 0 10,000
 W. Germany: Immel, Kruse, Otten, Schuster, Gruber, Kroth, Littbarski, Schneider, Klotz, Low, Augustin.
 Scotland: Thomson, Stewart, McNichol, Fulton, Dawson, Bannon, Wark, Richardson, Archibald, Brazil, Melrose.

Wednesday, Feb. 27

First Division

ASTON VILLA (1) 2 (Shaw, Donachie o.g.)
MAN. CITY (0) 2 (Robinson pen., Power) 29,139
 Aston Villa: Rimmer; Swain, Gibson, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Morley, Little, Bremner, Cowans, Shaw.
 Man. City: Corrigan; Ranson, Donachie, Reid, Caton, Booth, Henry, Daley, Robinson, Power, Bennett.



Liverpool's Phil Neal scores from the spot in the derby game at Everton.

MAN. UTD. (1) 2 (McQueen, Coppell)
BOLTON (0) 0 47,546
 Man. Utd: Bailey, Nicholl, Houston, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchanan, Coppell, Wilkins (Sloan), Jordan, Macari, Grimes.
 Bolton: McDonagh; Clement, Burke, Nicholson, Jones, Walsh, Morgan, Whatmore, Nowak, Wilson, Reid.

NORWICH (0) 0
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 0 14,631
 Norwich: Hansbury; Bond, Symonds, Mendham, Jones, McDowell, Halsey, Reeves, Fashanu (McGuire), Paddon, Peters.
 Middlesbrough: Platt; Craggs, Johnson, Hedley, Ashcroft, McAndrew, Cochrane, Nattrass, Hodgson, Burns, Armstrong.

TOTTENHAM (2) 4 (Hodde 3, 2 pens., Falco)
COVENTRY (2) 3 (Dyson, English 2) 22,536
 Tottenham: Kendall; Hughton, Miller, Pratt, McAllister, Perryman, Ardiles, Falco, Armstrong, Hoddle, Yorath.
 Coventry: Blyth; Coop, McDonald, Gooding (Roberts), Dyson, Gillespie, Hutchison, English, Thompson, Blair, Hunt.

Third Division

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Brotherston)
EXETER (0) 1 (Pullar) 10,601
 Blackburn: Arnold; Branagan, Rathbone, Kendall (Metcalfe), Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherston, Crawford, Garner, McKenzie, Parkes.
 Exeter: Main; Mitchell, Hatch, Hore, Giles, Roberts (P), Neville, Rogers (P), Roberts (L) (Bowker), Delve, Pullar.

Bass Irish Cup

(Quarter-Final replay)

CRUSADERS (1) 3 (King 2, Rice)
GLENAYON (0) 0

Thursday, February 28

Bass Irish Cup

(Quarter-Final replay)

COLERAINE (1) 1 (Platt)
R.U.C. (0) 1 (Crozier pen)

FAI Cup

(Fifth Round)

ATHLONE TOWN (0) 2 (O'Connor, McCue)
SLIGO ROVERS (0) 0
 Athlone Town: Smyth; Feniuk, Conway (T), Conway (J), McCue, Fullam, O'Connor, Davis, Wyse (Salmon), Clarke, Devlin.
 Sligo Rovers: Patterson; Fielding, O'Doherty (D), Sheridan, Rutherford, Stenson (Mannion), McLoughlin, Patton (Cavanagh), Bradley, O'Doherty (G), Skeffington.

WATERFORD (1) 3 (Madigan, Murray 2 (pen))
CORK UNITED (0) 0
 Waterford: Thomas; O'Mahony, Finucane, Dunphy, Gardiner, Meagan, Madigan, McCarthy, Murray, Wallace, Kirk.
 Cork Utd: Ludzie; Punch, Madden, Sheehan, Brohan, Nodwell, Neilland, Keane (Waters), Allen, McCarthy, Lane.

Friday, February 29

Second Division

SWANSEA (0) 0
BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Lynex) 16,363
 Swansea: Stewart; Robinson, Rushbury, Phillips, Stevenson, Giles, Craig, James, Charles, Toshack, Callaghan.
 Birmingham: Wealands; Broadhurst, Dennis, Curbishley, Gallagher, Todd, Ainscow, Lynex (Evans), Bertschin, Towers, Dillon.

Third Division

BLACKPOOL (1) 1 (Kellow)
COLCHESTER (0) 0 5,594
 Blackpool: Hesford; Gardner, Pashley, Ashurst, Thompson, Doyle, Morris, Kellow, Fletcher (McEwan), Harrison, Noble.
 Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Leslie, Hodge, Dowman, Rowles (Gough), Allinson, Foley, Lee, Wright.

SOUTHEND (1) 1 (Spence)
SWINDON (0) 0 5,282
 Southend: Cavston; Moody, Yates, Stead, Hadley, Cusack, Gray, Pountney, Spence, Mercer, Otulakowski.
 Swindon: Allan; Lewis, Ford, McHale, Tucker, Stroud, Miller (Bates), Kamara, Rowland, Mayes, Williams.

Fourth Division

LINCOLN (2) 4 (Harford 3, Bell)
WIGAN (0) 0 3,644
 Lincoln: McManus; Thompson, Neale, Shipley, Peake, Carr, Hobson, Keeley, Harford, Turner, Bell.
 Wigan: Brown; McIver, Smart, Gore, Davids, Fretwell, Quinn (Brownhill), Wright, Houghton, Moore, Urquhart.

Saturday, March 1

First Division

ASTON VILLA (1) 1 (Evans)
DERBY (0) 0 28,596
 Aston Villa: Rimmer; Swain, Gibson, Evans, McNaught, Mortimer, Morley, Little, Bremner, Cowans, Shaw.
 Derby: McKellar; Langan, Buckley, Powell (S), McFarland, Osgood, Emery, Powell (B), Biley, Swindlehurst, Emsen.

BOLTON (1) 1 (Whatmore)
NOTTM. FOREST (0) 0 16,164
 Bolton: McDonagh; Clement, Burke (Carter), Nicholson, Jones, Walsh, Nowak, Whatmore, Thompson, Wilson, Reid.
 Nottm. Forest: Shilton; Gunn, Gray, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Neill, Bowles, Birtles, Francis, Robertson.

BRIGHTON (1) 1 (Clarke)
COVENTRY (1) 1 (English) 21,605
 Brighton: Moseley; Gregory, Williams, Horton, Foster, Suddaby, McNab, Ward, Clarke, Lawrenson (Ryan), O'Sullivan.
 Coventry: Blyth; Coop, McDonald, Phillips, Dyson, Gillespie, Hutchison, English, Thompson, Blair, Hunt.

BRISTOL C. (0) 0
C. PALACE (0) 2 (Nicholas, Flanagan) 15,947
 Bristol: Cashley; Sweeney, Whitehead, Gow, Rodgers, Merrick, Pritchard, Fitzpatrick, Royle, Ritchie (Mabbutt), Tainton.
 C. Palace: Fry; Hinshelwood, Sansom, Nicholas, Cannon, Gilbert, Murphy, Francis, Walsh, Flanagan, Hilaire.

EVERTON (0) 1 (Eastoe)
LIVERPOOL (2) 2 (Johnson, Neal pen.) 53,013
 Everton: Wood; Gidman, Bailey, Nulty (Eastoe), Lyons, Ross, Hartford, Wright, King, Kidd, McBride.
 Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalgligh, Case, Johnson (Fairclough), McDermott, Souness.

IPSWICH (3) 6 (Brazil 2, Mariner 3, Thijssen)
MAN. UTD. (0) 0 30,120
 Ipswich: Cooper; Burley (O'Callaghan), Beattie, Thijssen, Osman, Butcher, Mills, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil, Gates.
 Man. Utd: Bailey; Nicholl (Jovanovic), Houston, McIlroy, McQueen, Buchanan, Coppell, Sloan, Jordan, Macari, Grimes.

MAN. CITY (0) 0
NORWICH (0) 0 32,248
 Man. City: Corrigan; Ranson, Donachie, Reid, Caton, Booth (Dayna), Henry, Robinson, Bennett, Power, Tueart.
 Norwich: Hansbury; Bond, Symonds, Mendham, Jones, McDowell, Halsey, Reeves, Taylor (Fashanu), Paddon, Peters.

SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Baker)
W.B.A. (1) 1 (Regis) 22,138
 Southampton: Wells, Golac, Waldron, Baker, Watson, Nicholl, Hebbard, Boyer, Channon, Holmes, George.
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Pendrey, Moses, Wile, Robertson (Barnes), Robson, Monaghan, Regis, Deehan, Owen.

STOKE (0) 2 (Cook, Chapman)
ARSENAL (0) 3 (Sunderland, Price, Brady) 19,752
 Stoke: Fox; Evans, Doyle, Johnson (P), Smith, Dodd, Heath (O'Callaghan), Richardson, Chapman, Crooks, Cook.
 Arsenal: Jennings; Devine, Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Sunderland, Stapleton, Price, Rix.

TOTTENHAM (1) 2 (Hodde, Falco)
LEEDS (0) 1 (Chandler) 35,331
 Tottenham: Daines; Hughton, Miller, Villa, McAllister, Perryman, Ardiles, Falco, Armstrong, Hoddle, Yorath.
 Leeds: Lukic; Cherry (Entwistle), Stevenson, Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Gray, Chandler, Connor, Hamson, Graham.

WOLVES (0) 0
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 2 (Hodgson 2) 21,852
 Wolves: Bradshaw; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Hughes, Berry, Hibbitt (Clarke), Carr, Gray, Richards, Eves.
 Middlesbrough: Platt; Craggs, Johnson, Johnston, Ramage, Nattrass, Cochrane, Proctor, Hodgson, Burns (Headley), Armstrong.

Second Division

BURNLEY (0) 1 (Dixon)
PRESTON (1) 1 (McGee) 10,843
 Burnley: Stevenson; Arins, Brennan, Busby, Overson (V), Dixon, James, Dobson, Hamilton, Young (Cavener), Smith.
 Preston: Tunks; Cameron, McAteer, Bell, Baxter, Blackley, Coleman, Doyle, Elliott, Potts, McGee.

CHARLTON (0) 4 (Madden, Hales, Gritt, Powell)
BRISTOL R (0) 0 4,858
 Charlton: Johns; Campbell, Warman, Tydeman, Berry, Madden, Powell, Hales, Robinson, Walker, Gritt.
 Bristol R: Thomas; Jones, Cooper, Aitken, Taylor, Prince (Dennehy), Barrowclough, Williams, Penny, Mabbutt, Puls.

CHELSEA (0) 1 (Walker)
CARDIFF (0) 0 18,449
 Chelsea: Borota; Locke, Rofe, Hales (Walker), Pates, Nutton, Britton, Fillery, Langley, Lee, Harris.
 Cardiff: Healey; Dwyer, Lewis, Campbell, Pontin, Thomas, Micallef, Stevens, Moore, Robson, Graves.

LEICESTER (0) 0
OLDHAM (1) 1 (Steel) 16,991
 Leicester: Wallington; Williams, Scott, Goodwin (Wilson), May, Welsh, Peake, Kelly, Young, Henderson, Smith.
 Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Holt, Kowenicki, Clements, Hurst, Valentine, Wyld, Steel, Hilton, Atkinson.

LUTON (1) 1 (Hill)
WEST HAM (0) 1 (Stewart) 20,040
 Luton: Findlay; Stephens, Donaghy, Grealish, Saxby, Price, Hill, West, Stein (White), Hatton, Moss.
 West Ham: Parkes; Lampard, Brush, Stewart, Martin, Devonshire, Allen, Holland (Pearson), Cross, Brooking, Pike.

NEWCASTLE (0) 0
WATFORD (1) 2 (Barton o.g., Jenkins) 23,103
 Newcastle: Hardwick; Brownlie, Davies (Rafferty), Cassidy, Barton, Boam, Shouler, Cartwright, Withe, Connolly, Hibbitt.
 Watford: Steele; Henderson, Harrison, Booth, Sims, Bolton, Blissett, Poskett, Jenkins, Train, Rostron.



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

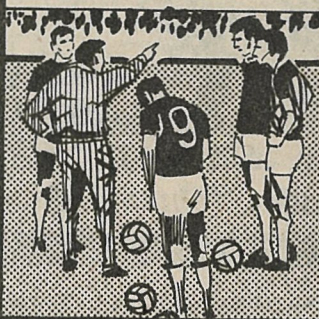
1

A team captain is involved in an argument with one of his own players and decides to send him off. You tell the captain he is not allowed to do this. Are you correct?



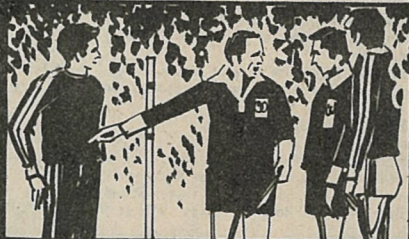
2

The home team refuses to allow the visiting side to warm up on the pitch eight minutes before the match. Can you intervene and allow the visiting team this request?



3

A linesman complains about a ball boy on the opposite touch-line who wears a jersey similar to the teams strip. Should you: (a) take no action or (b) have the ball boy change his top?



4

A player takes a corner-kick before you signal. The ball goes straight into the opponents' goal. Should you award: (a) a goal (b) an indirect free-kick against the kicker, or (c) a retake of the kick?



5

A defender is about to put on a boot which has slipped off when the ball is kicked towards his goal. He uses the boot with a hand to deflect the ball over the cross-bar. Should you award: (a) a goal (b) penalty or (c) indirect free-kick?



ANSWERS

1. Yes. 2. No. 3. Make the ball boy change his top (b). This happened to me when I was refereeing Newport County and Cardiff City in the Welsh Cup recently. Howard King my linesman drew my attention to the Newport ball boys as Brian Harris, assistant-manager of Cardiff City, had complained. I stopped the match and asked the Newport manager to change their tops, this was done within three minutes. 4. Retake the kick (c). 5. Penalty (b).

'Greenhoff wouldn't accept he was finished'

YOU can imagine how unhappy I was after we had played at Old Trafford earlier this season and lost 3-0.

My face was almost tripping me up as I went to the bar for a drink afterwards but my misery was nothing compared with Jimmy Greenhoff's.

I knew him from our Stoke days together, of course, and it was hard to get even a couple of words out of him. It was obvious that something was troubling him and soon afterwards I read in the newspapers that his career was finished because of injury.

So, along with many other people in football, I was thrilled when he capped his remarkable comeback with the winning goal against Liverpool.

It must have been shattering news for him when the specialists said he wouldn't play again, but it is typical of Jimmy's attitude that he wouldn't accept that.

It's not very often you get players proving specialists wrong and I only hope for his sake that he carries on re-establishing himself and turns out to be one of the lucky few.



KEEP UP WITH SHILTON

He's a smashing lad and a fine player and it was no surprise to us at Stoke when Tony Waddington made him team-captain. He was playing so well at the time that it seemed inevitable he would win an England cap.

In fact, Jimmy had to be satisfied with an appearance as an over-age player in an Under-23 line-up and I suppose he must go down as one of the unluckiest footballers never to win a full cap.

He is one of the best volleyers of the ball in the game and has a marvellous touch.

They are qualities that have shone through a career with Leeds, Birmingham, Stoke and Manchester United and I just hope they will be on view for some time to come.

Jimmy Greenhoff (right) has proved the specialists wrong after being advised to retire.

'I was told to cheer-up'

IN many respects this season has been a disappointing one for us at Nottingham Forest. But we are determined to put that right next time around.

We had hoped, of course, to be challenging Liverpool and Manchester United for the Championship but lacked the consistency to do that.

It's been a transitional time at the club and since we won the First Division title ourselves in 1978, the team has undergone quite a few changes.

I'm not putting that forward as an excuse but it's fact that it takes new players time to settle in and develop an understanding with those already there.

But although we accept that we have had our fair share of setbacks it would be wrong for anyone to say it's been a bad season.

Hopefully, by the time you read this we would have qualified for the European Cup Final . . . and we did get through to our third successive League Cup Final.

Losing to Wolves at Wembley was a massive blow because we desperately wanted to hold on to the trophy for another year.

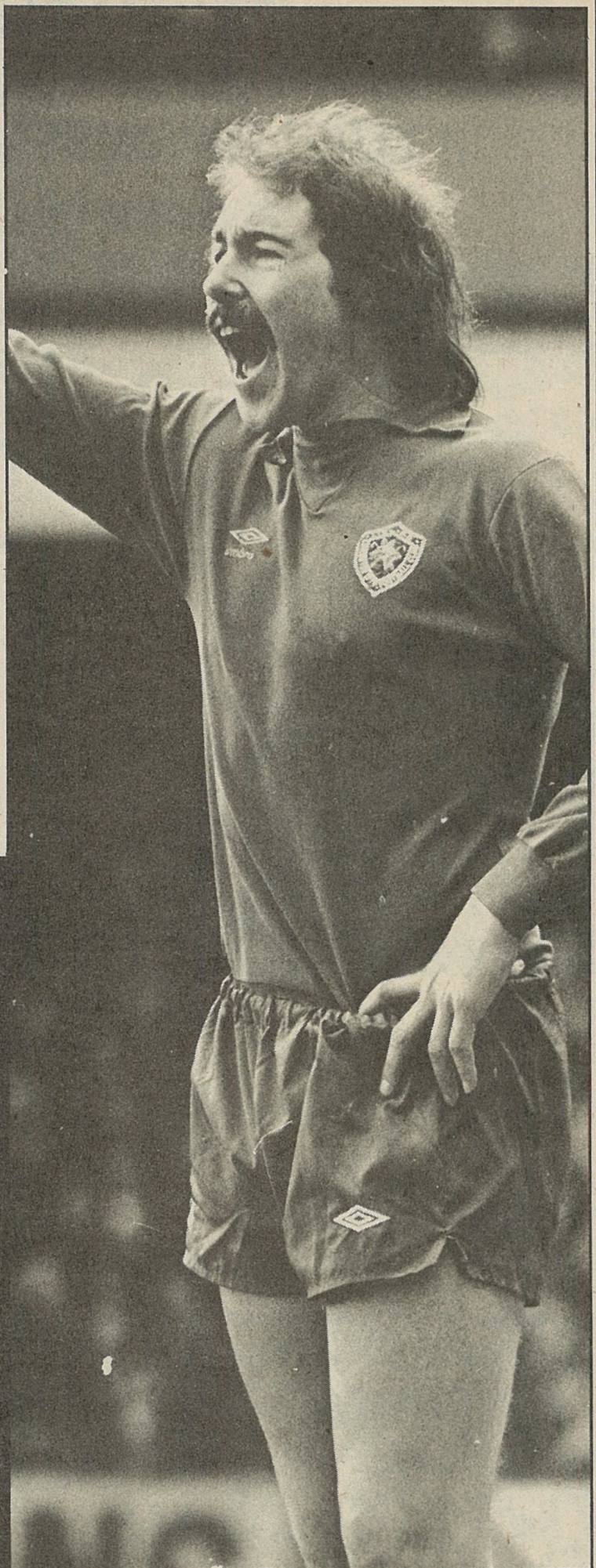
The memory of that Andy Gray goal will haunt us for a long time but my particular disappointment of that occasion was slightly



Airborne and under pressure in the League Cup Final against Wolves.

tempered when the boss said: "Cheer up! If it hadn't been for you we might not have beaten Liverpool in the Semi-Finals to get to Wembley."

But be sure that we are determined to be a force in the Championship race next season and although it is early days, we are confident of challenging Liverpool or anyone else who might be there with them.



'I helped sign Wallington'

Mark Wallington (right) is too good for the Second Division.

ONE of the last things I did before I left Leicester City some years ago was to go on a spying mission for them.

When it became inevitable that I would be leaving Filbert Street, the then Leicester manager Jimmy Bloomfield asked me to go and take a look at a young goakeeper for him.

I remember my wife Sue and I travelling down to Bristol to watch Rovers play Walsall, and so as to attract the least possible attention, we sat in the stand well away from the directors box.

My mission was to give the once over to an up-and-coming youngster in the Walsall goal. His name: Mark Wallington.

He had an outstanding game that night and I went back to Leicester to tell Mr. Bloomfield that he looked to have a bright future in the game.

Soon afterwards Leicester paid Walsall £30,000 for Mark and following a spell in the reserves he was ready to take over when I left for Stoke.

And I would imagine that over the years he has been at Leicester they probably haven't had a more consistent player.

When I first saw him at Eastville he looked to have all the qualities needed to become a top class goalkeeper and there is no doubt in my mind that he is too good to be in the Second Division.

I'm certain his displays have been one of the reasons why Leicester have been pushing so hard for promotion.

Mark's obviously got a lot of character and he's dedicated, too. It's not easy stepping into a top player's shoes... I should know because I followed Gordon Banks!

Bob Wilson

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**AT LOCAL CINEMAS
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WINGER Mike Brolly is the hero of Grimsby's fans as he plays a vital part in the club's surprise charge out of the Third Division.

And none of the side is looking forward with more relish to the Second Division challenge than the Kilmarnock-born forward.

He's got something to prove after failing to make the grade at Chelsea, then losing his place after being a regular with Bristol City in their Second Division promotion season.

Brolly went to Stamford Bridge as a teenager, but made only seven League appearances before moving on to Bristol City, where he clocked up 27 Second Division games.

Now, he has more than 150 League appearances behind him in the black and white stripes of Grimsby and that has prepared him for a return to the Second Division.

"I was very disappointed when Chelsea and Bristol let me go," he recalls. "But, looking back, I probably lacked consistency and can see why it happened."

"I only wish I knew then what I know now. I had a lot to learn and like to think I've done that with Grimsby. I'm not such an instinctive player nowadays. Experience



BROLLY'S UP WITH GRIMSBY

has taught me when and why to do things and it has made me a better player.

"That's why I can't wait to start next season in the Second Division and show that I'm good enough for the higher grade after all."

Brolly also believes that the Grimsby side will prove they can live in the Second, and prove wrong the cynics who say they will go straight back down.

"They said the same thing last season when we were promoted from the Fourth Division, but we shook everybody," he said.

"It didn't surprise me because we are basically a young side and I knew we only had to maintain our improvement to be a force this season."

"That's how it worked out and there's still room for improvement

next season, particularly from youngsters like Nigel Batch, Tony Ford and Kevin Drinkell."

Not that Brolly is old. Many people consider him the veteran of the side because of his receding hairline and he seems to have been on the scene for a long time. In fact, he's only 25.

But he accepts that he could easily have drifted out of the game by now if Grimsby hadn't moved in.

"It's not too much to say they saved my career when I was having a bad time," he says.

The spirit at Grimsby is so good

Brolly and two other first teamers recently agreed to travel to Sunderland to play for the reserves.

"We haven't got a very big staff, so we volunteered to help out when the reserves had a few problems — it's that sort of club," he said.

Sunderland on a wet Monday night was a far cry from some of the matches Brolly has played in this season.

"We've had some fabulous matches in the League Cup this season and I'll always remember them," he said. "The town came alight and proved to us that we can live with the best."



Mike Brolly has finally settled down at Grimsby after being released by Chelsea and Bristol City. Here he scores against Chesterfield.

KEEP THAT PROGRAMME



it could be worth a fortune

COLLECTING football programmes, old soccer postcards, cigarette cards and tickets etc, is now a rapidly growing pastime. So much so that a special exhibition for collectors will take place in London on Sunday, May 4th.

The National Collectors Exhibition will be an opportunity for collectors of soccer programmes and mementoes to get together.

Some collectors specialise in their own club's home and away matches. Others have a wider range of interest in categories such as F.A. Cup and League Cup games, European competitions and internationals.

However, the most popular 'specialist' category of programme collecting is F.A. Cup Finals. The first aim is to obtain all the post-war issues.

This isn't too hard but then comes the difficult and more expensive task of obtaining the pre-war Wembley Finals from 1923-1939.

The 1923 Bolton v West Ham Final is, to the programme collector, what the penny black is to a stamp collector.

Close behind Cup Finals come pre-war club programmes from clubs who have lost their League status during the past 25 years.

Also amongst this Fair will be a **SOCCER HALL OF FAME EXHIBITION** with the actual boots worn by Pele, Stanley Matthews and Tom Finney.

Other attractions will include Geoff Hurst's 1966 England shirt, the 1966 Portugal v England World Cup Semi-Final pennant as well as the world's smallest football programme measuring 4" x 2 1/2".

The Exhibition is at the Kensington New Town Hall, London, W8. The nearest tube is High Street, Kensington. 11am-6pm £1.00 admission by programme available at the door 50p children under 14.

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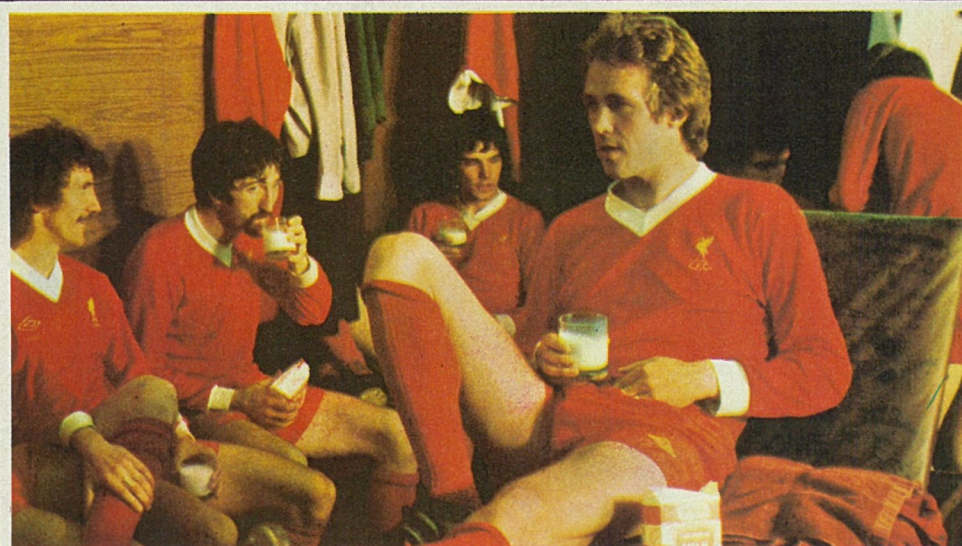


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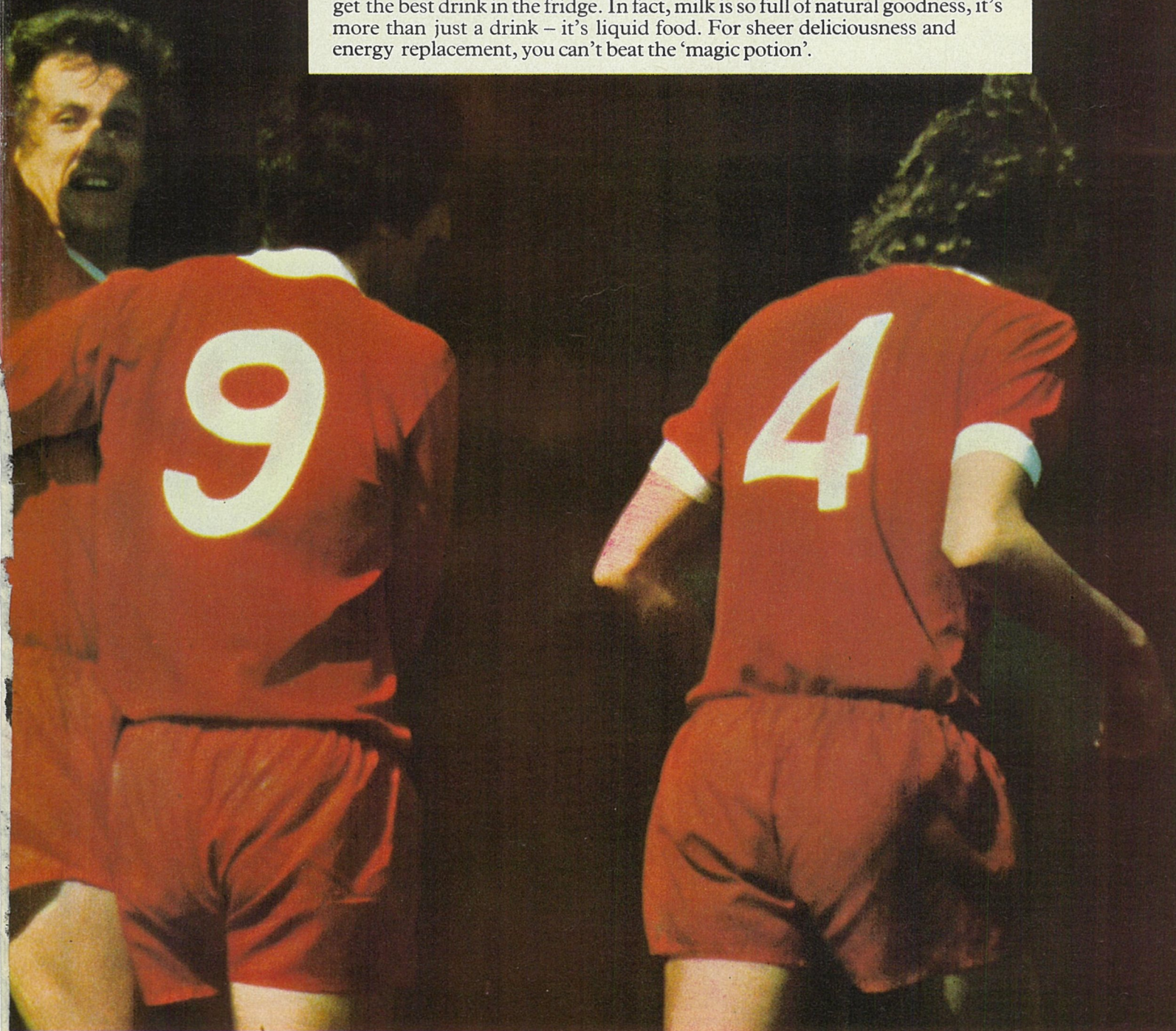
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Celtic are set to lift the Scottish Championship yet again, and here the Parkhead players give manager Billy McNeill a big lift in anticipation. From left: Vic Davidson, Tommy Burns, Roy Aitken, Tom McAdam, Andy Lynch, Peter Latchford (hidden), Danny McGrain, Mike Connroy, Bobby Lennox, Murdo MacLeod, Davie Provan and George McCluskey.

SHOOT!

DON'T LAUGH...

AMUSING incident (well, maybe not so amusing for those involved!) during a match between Atlanta and Colo Colo in Chile. Atlanta's Vásquez went down injured and had to be taken off. Two assistants helped Vásquez on to a stretcher; backed between the stretcher's carrying rails... and walked off in opposite directions! Vásquez found himself back on the turf, and the process had to be repeated.

... IT'S TRUE!

A Spanish Third Division player recently had to be helped off the field, complaining of terrible pains in his right foot — even though he'd scored a goal shortly beforehand. The club masseur was puzzled until he took off the player's boot... and found a shoe-horn inside!

WORLD WIDE



compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

The cost of winning the Bundesliga

BAYERN Munich, neck-and-neck with Hamburger SV at the top of the Bundesliga, have financial problems. Chairman Willi Hoffmann (right) has said that the club is operating at a loss and economies must be made.

The loss would be even more but for £400,000 Bayern have received for playing mid-week friendlies. However, the players dislike such matches and told general manager Uli Hoeness: "You must choose between winning the League or the friendlies."

Hoeness promised "no more friendlies" — but it is ironic that winning the Bundesliga will mean a deficit of something in the region of £1 million for the season. Strange when finishing fourth can be more financially rewarding than being Champions!

WHO TAKES OVER AT BARCELONA?

BARCELONA reckon to name their new manager during the first fortnight of June. There is no shortage of candidates for a job that can easily bring in £150,000 in a 'normal' season and can hit double that figure if the club wins a major trophy.

Spain's national team manager Ladislao Kubala is at the top of Barcelona's shopping list, though he'll only be available if Spain do poorly in the European Championship Finals.

In any case, the club would prefer the matter to be settled early in June, and Yugoslav national team boss Miljan Miljanic is a firm favourite with the Barca directors. His three years with Real

Madrid means that he speaks the language and knows the ins and outs of Spanish football.

Ipswich boss Bobby Robson (right) is also on the wanted list, and Barcelona would be prepared to pay the Suffolk club the compensation (likely to be around £175,000) that they demanded when Robson was approached by Athletic Bilbao last year.

The directors of Barcelona brought in Helenio Herrera at a cost of £35,000, convinced that 'The Magician' could snap the Catalan club out of the doldrums in the remaining ten weeks of the season. But Herrera has already seen Barcelona knocked out of the Spanish Cup and the Cup Winners Cup and battered mercilessly in



the League. Herrera remarked "I haven't been here long, but I realise they've shoved a hot potato in my hand..."

Incidentally, remember that one Barcelona sports paper reported that the club wanted 'Bob Paisley of Celtic'? The same paper has now repeated the rumour, changing it to 'Liverpool manager Ian Paisley'.

Sounds a bit Irish to me!

Nothing unusual about a riot

MASSIVE crowd disturbances during the local derby between San Luis and Unión Calera in the Chilean League. It was a rough, tough battle within 'normal' limits until the 85th minute, when referee Zuniga awarded San Luis a penalty.

Neither the Calera team nor their fans liked the decision, and Illescas was sent-off for protesting a little too violently.

Up stepped Cabrera, and shot wide. Two minutes later, San Luis striker Martinez was brought down, and the referee pointed once again to the penalty spot. This time Cabrera made no mistake, and the match ended as a 2-1 win for San Luis.

But the crowd invaded the pitch, and the referee was one of many casualties. Unión Calera boss Antonio Vargas was beaten up by over-energetic policemen. And a Press photographer had to be rushed to hospital after being hit on the head by a bottle.

"It's fairly normal," commented a San Luis official. During the last derby they tried to set fire to the main stand..."

REMARKABLY, Monaco striker Delio Onnis is back at the top of the French scoring charts despite missing over three months of the League campaign through injury. The Argentine's two goals against Angers brought him level with Laval's German striker Kostedde, who'd temporarily taken the lead in the goal charts.

I'm not sure if this is the first case of its kind, but a recent Murcia-Cartagena match in Spain had to be abandoned five minutes before the end... due to pollution! Industrial fumes reduced visibility to a few yards, and the players were having problems in breathing.



FROM CHAMPS TO CHUMPS

I'VE already commented on the disastrous start that Boca Juniors have made in Argentina's Metropolitan Championship, plagued with injuries, sendings-off, suspensions and grave financial problems.

To give you some idea of the all-time low morale among the Boca players, here's what a team member said after their 1-1 draw with San Lorenzo: "They must be the worst team in the whole of South America... but we're happy to take a point from them."

To think that Boca were Champions of the South American continent in 1977 and 1978!

News flashes

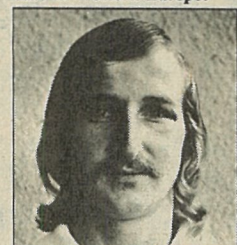
● The West German F.A. have announced the bonuses they will offer their players in the European Championship in June: £2,500 a man to reach the last four, and another £2,500 if they reach the Final, and a further £2,500 if they win the trophy.

● The organisers of the Little World Cup for World Cup winners have had second thoughts. They originally planned to start the series on Boxing Day, 1980. Now it starts on December 30 with Uruguay v Holland and Argentina v West Germany next day. The Final is on January 10th, 1981. The change was made because the players wanted to have Christmas at home.

● Dutch Second Division club SC Amersfoort had an unusual record after 25 League games: their players had

collected a total of 27 yellow cards, while they had scored only 20 goals.

● After 17 First Division games in Poland, the top scorer is Kazimierz Kmiecik (Wisla Krakow) with 13 goals. International stars Gregorz Lato (five), Zbigniew Boniek (four) and Andrzej Szarmach (below, three) appear to be staging a go-slow, probably wanting a transfer to a professional club in Western Europe.



● Some prices have been fixed for the European Championship games in June. £19 for the best seats in the Quarter-Finals but

the prices for the Final have still to be agreed between the Italians and U.E.F.A. Standing on the corners will be £2.50.

● Racing Strasbourg have prolonged the contract of manager Gilbert Gress (below). Now 38, he spent most of his career playing with VfB Stuttgart and led Racing to the Championship last season. They did it in the face of the French Coaches Association bid to stop unqualified men getting jobs with the professional clubs unless qualified; Gress has never taken the French FA course and refuses to do so.

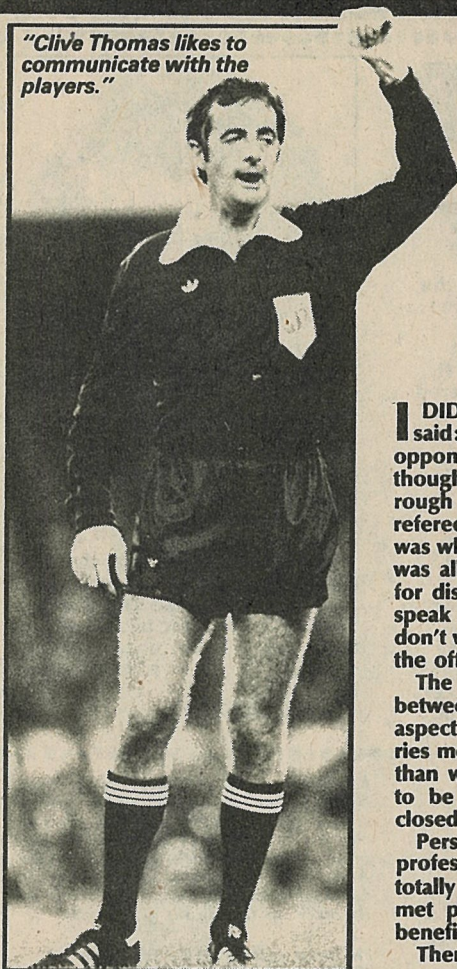


BRAZIL GET GOING AGAIN

BRAZIL manager Telê Santana called 17 players for the "A" squad and 17 for the Under-21's for a practice friendly played at the Maracanã. Half the team from the 1978 World Cup was in the basic senior side; obviously the game was no more than a chance for Santana to see his players first-hand. The "A" squad: GK: Carlos (Ponte Preta), Raul (Flamengo); RB: Nelinho (Cruzeiro); CB: Amaral (Corinthians), Luizinho (Atletico Mineiro), Rondineli (Flamengo); LB: Junior (Flamengo), Pedrinho (Palmeiras); MF: Batista (Internacional); Cerezo (Atletico Mineiro), Zico (Flamengo); Sócrates (Corinthians), Falcão (Internacional); Forw: Reinaldo (Atletico Mineiro), Tarciso (Gremio), Joãozinho (Cruzeiro), Zé Sergio (São Paulo).

Regular goalkeeper Leão was omitted because Santana wanted to give understudy Carlos an opportunity. Telê stressed Leão is still the first-choice, though. Toninho, the World Cup right-back, was injured.

"Clive Thomas likes to communicate with the players."



'Why we full-time

I DIDN'T swear or shout. I simply said: "Come on, ref..." The opponents' defenders had, I thought, been giving me a bit of a rough time and I'd asked the referee to keep an eye open. Then I was whacked again. "Come on, ref" was all I said — and I was booked for dissent. I then asked if I could speak... to ask a question. "No, I don't want you to," was the reply as the official noted my name.

The lack of communication between players and referees is one aspect of football which really worries me. We should be much closer than we are now, but there seems to be no sign of the gap being closed.

Personally, I'd like to see full-time professional referees. If they were totally involved in the game, and met players regularly, it can only benefit the game, surely?

There are half a dozen or so refs,

such as Clive Thomas, who you can talk to. Officials who will explain a decision to you or clear up a point. Their attitude is rare; I think it's a crime when refs won't listen to players.

After the game it's unusual for the referee to have a drink with the players or the managers, where both parties could talk about the match and help each other. We're all in the same profession, yet at times I wonder if we are really working for the good of the game.

Stood out

1979/80 hasn't produced anything new, but if I had one wish it would be for referees to be full-time.

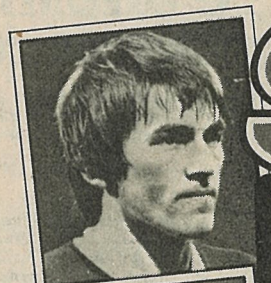
The only feature of the season that has stood out is that the First Division is becoming closer. Whether that is good or bad I'm not sure. Perhaps it means players and

teams aren't as good as they were a few years back. Has there been a levelling up or a levelling down? Have the leading clubs slipped... or have the 'middle' clubs become better?

Whatever, there appear to be more clubs who have a chance of honours. Okay, so Liverpool are on for the Double, but last August few people would have backed Wolves to win the League Cup or Everton to do so well in the F.A. Cup. The unpredictability could help to bring back the lost fans, who may realise their team can possibly gain some sort of success after all.

I suppose I'm contradicting myself slightly by saying Liverpool are still the best team we've faced. At Anfield it was men against boys. We went to Anfield in the middle of a good run and fancied our chances of coming home with at least a point. We lost 3-0 and in the

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need refs'

second-half, especially, were outplayed by Liverpool.

I have other unhappy memories of that defeat because it was while we were 0-1 down I missed one of the easiest chances of my career. Dave Thomas crossed the ball and I was running in with the goal at my mercy. I thought as long as I made contact with the ball it must go in. To my horror, I headed wide and the ball landed in The Kop. I saw it again on TV and I couldn't believe I'd missed it.



Andy Gray
WRITES
FOR YOU

Mind you, I also saw Kenny Dalglish miss an even simpler one in the game against Manchester United at Old Trafford. Even though he was offside, I would have put every penny I had on Kenny to find the back of the net with an open goal from two yards. He miskicked — which shows my League Cup Final goal wasn't so easy after all!

My goal-average has slipped slightly behind the goal-every-other-game ratio I'd had previously in my career. I'm not too disappointed. As I write I have scored 15 goals for Wolves and one for Scotland. Considering I had to adapt my style to suit Wolves, I'm reasonably happy with that return.

Spectacular

Three goals in particular for Wolves have pleased me; my debut goal at Everton, the League Cup Final winner at Wembley, and my header at Southampton. The header because after 14 goals I still hadn't scored with my head and the other lads were ribbing me about it. It was a nice feeling to see my header go in. I've scored more spectacular goals, but they were the most satisfying, for obvious reasons.

I haven't scored or seen a goal better than Justin Fashanu's tremendous effort for Norwich City against Liverpool on Match of the Day. He'd be the first to admit the ball could have ended in the stand. As it was, the ball did everything a striker would have wanted. He controlled the ball, teed it up and caught it perfectly on the volley. Ray Clemence didn't have a chance as it screamed into the top corner.

One goalscorer we're sick of the

"Peter Ward is about to complete his hat-trick at Molineux."

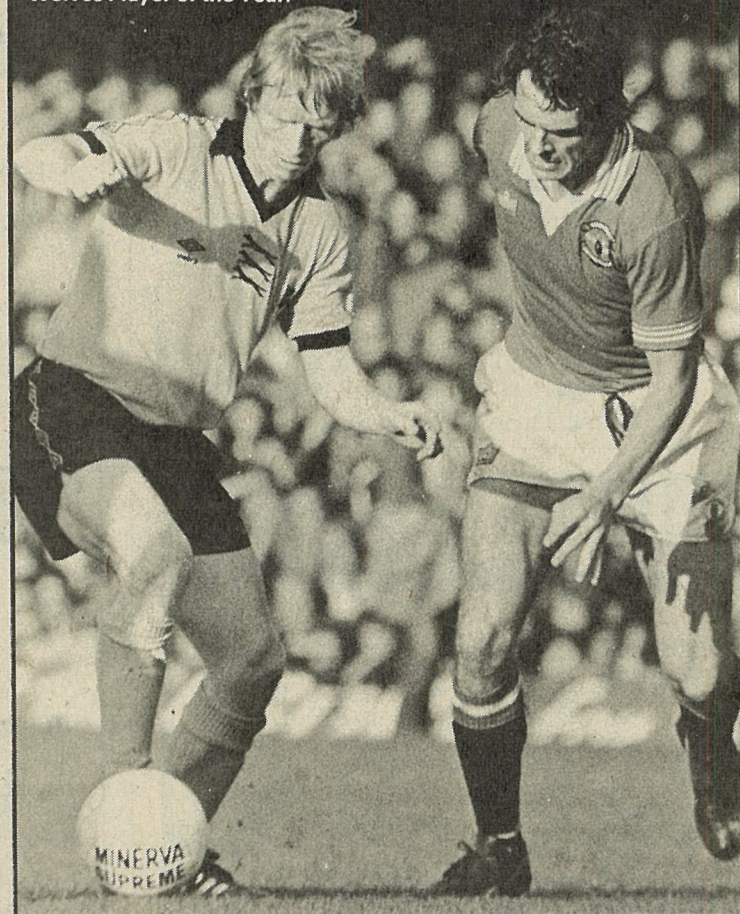
sight of at Wolves is Brighton's Peter Ward. Nothing personal, but the England Under-21 striker has scored five goals against us in the two League games.

At Molineux he had four opportunities and scored a hat-trick. At Brighton he contributed more to

the team and netted twice. Peter looked a superb player. He shields the ball well, has good control in tight situations and has the necessary acceleration to get himself out of a tight situation.

We at Wolves have a young player who could be destined for great-

"Willie Carr will surely be the Wolves Player of the Year."



ness: Wayne Clarke, who has what it takes to be even better than his famous brother Allan. Wayne has been playing the last few games since John Richards damaged a knee. We're expecting big things from him in the next year or two.

The Wolves Player of the Year, though, must surely be Willie Carr, whose consistency over the past season has been incredible. Willie has been a shining example to the rest of us and it isn't bias when I say I haven't seen a better midfielder in 1979/80. Other players may have received more glory than Willie; none has performed better. He was our star man in the League Cup Final and in every game has played well, even if the team hasn't.

We've had three 'stinkers' and on each occasion we've said: "At least we can't play as badly again..."

We were awful losing 3-0 at home to Coventry; equally bad going down 2-0 to Middlesbrough at Molineux; and the most disappointing of all, the F.A. Cup defeat by Watford, again at Molineux. The draw had been kind to us and we had our chance to win through. We'd just beaten Swindon to reach the League Cup Final and perhaps there was some reaction. I mean no disrespect to any of these sides and take nothing away from them... but we really were pathetic on those occasions!

Join me again in a fortnight,

Andy Gray

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time

1. Why was Crystal Palace goalkeeper David Fry forced to miss the last month of the season?

2. Sunderland hit the top of the Second Division for the first time this season when they beat Shrewsbury Town, 1-0, 2-1 or 3-2 at Gay Meadow?

3. Walsall, Grimsby Town or Huddersfield Town were the first club in the Football League to clinch promotion?

4. Was Michael, Martin or Maurice Harvey recently appointed as manager of Third Division Carlisle United?

5. Ipswich midfielder player John Wark (right) scored his first hat-trick in the 4-2 derby victory over Norwich recently. How many of his goals came from the penalty-spot?

6. The Sheffield derby game at Bramall Lane attracted a crowd of 35,156, 45,156 or 55,156?



7. Which Scottish club play their home games at Love Street?

8. Name the Liverpool defender who stood in for the injured Alan Kennedy and scored his side's first goal in a 3-1 win against Derby?

9. Andy Crawford has been scoring regularly for which Football League club this season?

10. True or false? Millwall were the first club from the Third Division to reach the F.A. Cup Semi-Finals.

BRITAIN IN EUROPE

Nottingham Forest and Arsenal played in the European Cup and Cup-Winners' Cup Semi-Finals, first-leg respectively. Can you answer the following questions about the games?

11. Forest took a giant step towards their second consecutive Final when they beat Ajax 2-0 with goals from Trevor Francis (right) and a John Robertson penalty. Who scored the first goal?

12. Francis's goal was the 400th, 500th or 600th goal scored by Forest since Brian Clough took over at the City Ground?

13. Was it a foul or handball that led to the penalty?

14. Who was the Arsenal defender injured in a crude tackle by Roberto Bettega of Juventus in the first-half and had to be substituted?

15. Franco Causio, Antonio Cabrini or Marco Tardelli was sent-off for a foul on Liam Brady in the first half?



ANSWERS:

1. He broke an arm. 2. 2-1. 3. Walsall. 4. Martin. 5. Two. 6. 45,156. 7. St. Mirren. 8. Colin Irwin. 9. Blackburn. 10. True. 11. Francis. 12. 500th. 13. Handball. 14. David O'Leary. 15. Tardelli.

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PUZZLE TIME ANSWERS

TEAM CHANGES:

(1) Orient. (2) Fulham. (3) Oxford. (4) Bolton. (5) Oldham. (6) Exeter.

TELESCOPIC TEAMWORK:

(1) Liverpool, Newcastle, Cambridge and Leicester.
(2) Colchester, Birmingham, Portsmouth and Hartlepool.
(3) Brentford, Clydebank, Rotherham and Blackpool.
(4) Blackburn, Mansfield, Wimbledon and Aldershot.
(5) Sunderland, Darlington, Scunthorpe and Shrewsbury.
(6) Doncaster, Stockport, Hibernian and Dumbarton.

FIND ONE, MISS ONE:

(1) Arsenal, Oldham, Rochdale, Carlisle.
(2) Liverpool, Bury, Everton, Newcastle.
(3) Derby, Leicester, Sunderland, Stoke.
(4) Mansfield, Chelsea, Fulham, Preston.



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THE roof fell in on Mervyn Day on February 22, last year. That's the day West Ham forked out a massive £565,000 — a world record for a goalkeeper — to sign Phil Parkes from Queens Park Rangers.

And it's a date that will be imprinted on Mervyn's mind for the rest of his life.

"How can I ever forget it? For as well as the professional consequences I have personal reasons for remembering it well," says Day.

"I had moved into a new house on February 21. So you can imagine how stunned I was when Phil was signed."

It spelled the end of the road for Mervyn — acclaimed by Ron Greenwood as 'our keeper for the next ten years' when introduced to The Hammers side as a raw 18-year-old.

The arrival of Parkes meant that Day was on his way having served only half the term Greenwood expected of him.

Five Mile Move

But any gloom and despondency he felt vanished in the summer when Mervyn moved five miles down the road to join Second Division Orient for £100,000.

It's a move he has never regretted for a minute and he is enjoying his football now more than at any time in his career.

Orient have shocked a few people by flirting with the promotion race — although they left themselves too much to do to achieve it this time.

But Day strongly advises all would-be tipsters to put their money on Orient for promotion next season.

"There's such a strong squad of players here that we have got to be in with an outstanding chance of bringing First Division football

HAPPY O's

back to Orient," he declares.

"I know the O's won promotion to the top flight back in 1962. But they lasted only a year before dropping back.

"The groundwork that is being done here now is aimed at making sure that does not happen again.

"Manager Jimmy Bloomfield has assembled a squad rich in experience and has some brilliant youngsters to give a nice blend.

"He has overhauled the side drastically in the past year or so, bringing in people like myself, Ralph Coates, Ian Moores, Tommy Taylor, Bill Jennings and John Margerrison.

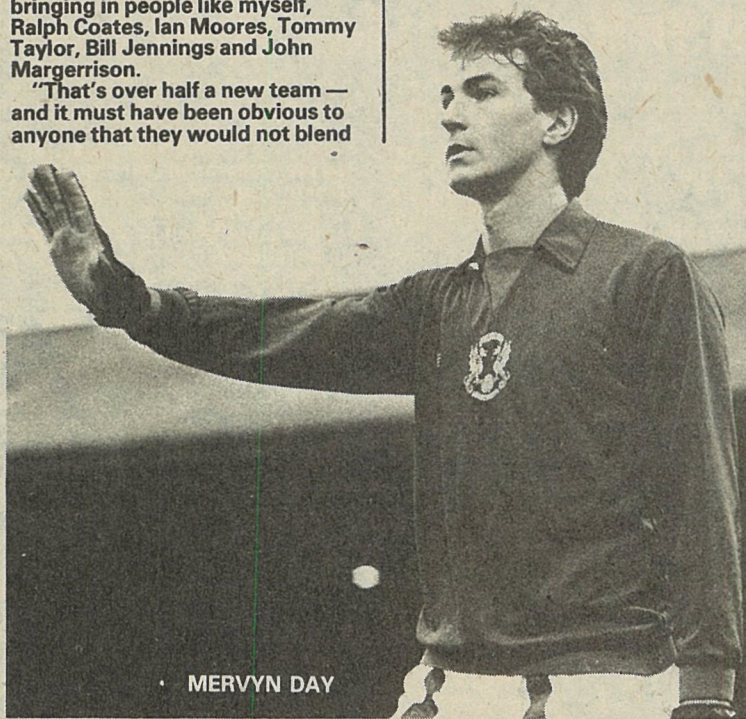
"That's over half a new team — and it must have been obvious to anyone that they would not blend

overnight. It takes time to get that many new faces settled in.

"As a result we had an appalling start to this season, taking four points from our first nine games.

"We did well to fight our way back into contention after a start like that. Then, after closing to within four points of the leaders by December, we had another slump and allowed a big gap to open again.

"Although we now realise we are not going up this season, the



MERVYN DAY

form we have shown in some of our games has really encouraged everyone at the club. I am sure we can make a more sustained challenge in the future.

"I was absolutely delighted when Jimmy Bloomfield asked me to join Orient.

"I had taken stick for some time and I know some people were questioning my ability.

"Not Jimmy. He had the courage to go out and buy me — and then announced he rated me the number three 'keeper in the country, behind only Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton.

"What a tribute that is. You just can't have higher praise than that.

"It was a tremendous boost to my morale and made me even more determined to do well and repay the faith he has shown in me.

"Orient's reputation as a 'friendly' club is renowned throughout the game. I had certainly heard all about it — but I had no idea exactly how friendly they were until I came here.

"Everything is done the right way and they go out of their way to look after people.

"We are all on first name terms, from chairman Brian Winston down to the newest apprentice.

"There is a family atmosphere and you know exactly where you stand. And that is very important.

"Jimmy made it clear he is determined to build a side, and not break one up, by refusing offers for winger John Chiedoie before the transfer deadline.

"He has worked hard to bring some quality players to Orient. Those players are determined to repay him by taking The O's back into the First Division.

"And what a fabulous achievement that would be for a club forced to run on small gates — yet one that treats its players as well as anyone in the game."

The budding Billy Bremner who became another Alan Ball

ON the pitch, Ray Lewington is a fiery carrot-haired ball of energy. A hustling, tough-tackling, no-nonsense midfielder.

So it is perhaps not that surprising that he is often being compared to a better-known player with all the same qualities — Alan Ball.

Ray, who joined relegation-bound Fulham in March for £60,000 from Vancouver Whitecaps, says: "I'm flattered that people compare me with Alan. But I leave the comparisons to others. I'd prefer to be remembered for my own ability. As Ray Lewington.

"At school it was the same. But then I was known as a budding Billy Bremner."

At that same school, Stockwell Manor, in South London, was another ambitious young player. A blond centre-forward by the name of Teddy Maybank.

"Ted and I were in the same

class, the same school team and the same team at Chelsea. It seems as though I'll never get rid of him," quipped Ray.

Now the former school-mates are resigned to relegation from the Second Division.

The 22-year-old said: "It is very sad, because the players here are far too good to go down. I've played in the Third Division and there's no comparison.

Young Side

"It's all a question of confidence. We're basically a very young side and when things aren't going well players tend to let their heads drop.

"It was much the same when I was at Chelsea. We had a few bad results and the crowd began to get on our backs."

After helping Chelsea to promotion to the First Division in the 1976-77 season, Ray found it hard

to capture a regular place and was sold to Vancouver Whitecaps at the beginning of 1979 for £40,000.

There he teamed up with fellow countrymen Trevor Whymark, Roger Kenyon, John Craven and his constant shadow, Alan Ball. Together they formed the nucleus of the side that won the American Super Bowl Final by beating Tampa Bay Rowdies 2-1. Ray was then loaned to Wimbledon during the winter.

"I enjoyed my time in America and Vancouver wanted me to sign a three-year contract to stay with them. I said I would only sign for a year so they went for Steve Kember instead," he said.

"Then in came Fulham. I met manager Bobby Campbell the day before the transfer deadline and agreed to join Fulham.

"I've signed a three-year contract because I'm convinced we will come straight back up to the Second Division again."



RAY LEWINGTON

THE champagne flowed inside the Everton dressing-room. Upon the table in the centre of the room sat the glittering League Championship trophy, decked out in the blue and white colours of the Goodison Park club. Away across the city, Liverpool sat pondering the future and defeat by Everton in that season's title race.

But Everton had more to celebrate than just that success. They had walloped their closest rivals, Liverpool, by a massive 15 points and had even beaten second-place Leeds United by a huge nine points.

Some of the football played by Everton had been magnificent; it was a great time for little Alan Ball, the midfield maestro who had done so much to help Harry Catterick's side to success.

"We had played some great stuff that season," recalls Ball. "At that time, I fell in love with one-touch football. I realised at that time, in a technical sense, how easy it was to kill off people with simple football."

But there was much more to the inside story of the glory days at Goodison. Ball says frankly: "Harry Catterick ruled by fear, and that played a large part in our winning the League Championship."

"We had tremendous ability, but Catterick drove us hard. I have never worked under anybody like him before or since. But he was the kind of man who rewarded you enormously if you did the business and worked well for him."

Comparisons with Liverpool at that time? Ball claims: "We more than broke even with them over the five year period I was at Goodison. Everton didn't exactly rule the roost but we were as good as them and certainly we could hold our heads up, which I suppose the modern day team can't do against Liverpool."

Glory Road

"But Everton will return and will dominate Liverpool at some stage in the future. It will happen because it's demanded of them."

The Everton glory road was built with care. Ball arrived in late 1966 and Everton finished sixth in the League the following season. Next season, they were fifth and also reached the F.A. Cup Final, only to lose 1-0 to West Bromwich Albion.

"We were still a young side coming together at that stage, so it wasn't a great surprise," said Ball.

Next season, Everton had closed the gap at the top, finishing third but again behind Liverpool, who were runners-up to Leeds. But the following season, it was Everton's turn to triumph. They won the League Championship for the first time since 1963 and richly deserved their success.

"We were a young side on the verge of great things," says Alan Ball. "There were so many young, talented players that the future looked bright. Nothing, it seemed, could stop us going to more success."

A disappointment followed next season when Greek club Panathinaikos of Athens beat Everton in the Quarter-Finals of the European Cup. With the Final due to be played at Wembley that year, Everton had high hopes of European glory, but a 1-1 home draw with the Greeks was a bad result

'SIGN FOR ARSENAL'

advised Malcolm Allison, the man who wanted him for Man. City

and a goalless draw in Athens meant the Greeks went through.

Ball began the 1971-72 season with ambition at Goodison, but out of the blue came the shock that was to wreck everything for Ball — and Everton. Ball remembers it vividly.

"Harry Catterick called me into his office one day after training and said there was someone in the next room who wanted to see me. I didn't realise what was happening until he said — 'It's the manager of Arsenal'."

"I was stunned, I didn't know what to say or think. I could not believe Catterick was saying 'We

me, Howard Kendall was younger and there were so many other marvellous young players. We were just getting the understanding any successful team must have to win trophies — and then suddenly, it was gone."

"It was too young a side to break up but that was Harry Catterick. He fell in and out of love with things quickly. I suppose you'd say, he was a very unpredictable person."

'Dominated'

"But I have no doubts if that Everton side had stayed together, it would have dominated English football, as Liverpool have done in the last few years. They didn't fulfil that potential purely because Catterick broke the side up too early."

"I was shattered that I was for sale. Five great years just flashed past me as I stood in his office that day, just about hearing him when he said 'You can go'. Nowadays you'd say it was good for business. He'd had five years out of me and was selling me for double the fee he'd paid to Blackpool."

"I didn't understand his logic at the time but I do now. I must



Harry Catterick (above) bought Alan Ball to Everton in 1966, and here he scores against Liverpool in his first derby game.

don't want you. You can go'. With the Championship only just gone from the sideboard at Goodison, I couldn't begin to understand it."

Ball has had a long time to think about that day. He has thought hard, too, about Catterick and the decision which changed both men's lives.

Ball says: "It was Catterick's policy to break up teams and that is what he was starting to do. But, given the chance, that side would have developed into a great team."

"I was 25 when Catterick sold

admit, I like a man who makes decisions. Whether they were right or wrong, Catterick certainly made them."

Ball admits, even now: "I still miss that Merseyside enthusiasm and I've never found anything like it anywhere else in the world."

Ball walked away from Catterick that day, into the next office — and into a new chapter of his life. At another desk stood Arsenal manager, Bertie Mee, who said: "We want you to come to Highbury."

Ball recalls: "It was a different

office and a completely different man. I listened to Mee but wanted time to think it over. I knew I was going to leave Everton but I was determined, wherever I went, to make Catterick eat his words. I desperately wanted to prove him wrong."

Arsenal took Ball down to Highbury for talks. Alan asked his father to go with him, thereby setting a fashion which has continued to this day in transfer deals.

"I was laughed at throughout the game for taking my Dad with me but I always felt two heads would be better than one," says Ball.

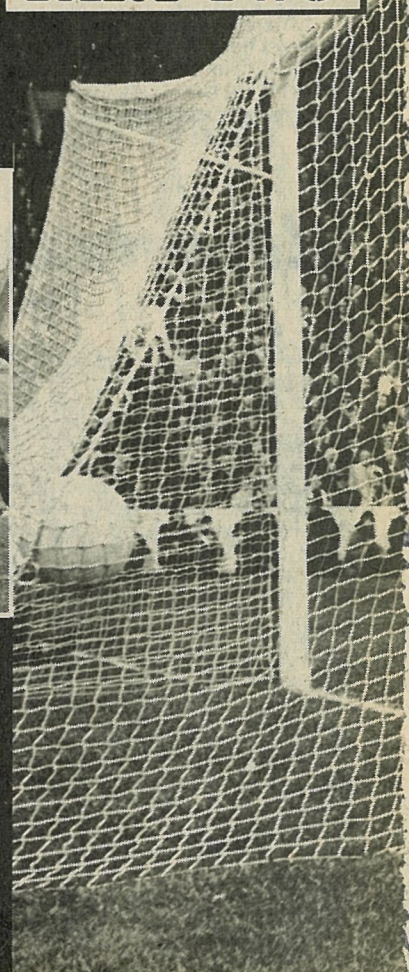
"Nowadays, players take agents and accountants with them when they sign for a club so maybe it wasn't so silly after all. I got a good deal from a great club and a lot of that was due to the help my father gave me."

Ball had played just over 200 games for Everton, scoring 66 goals, when he left for Arsenal. But that record and the little man's reputation had clubs other than Arsenal on his trail.

Ball discovered that Manchester City were interested and, later still, Manchester United. "I'd have walked all the way to Old Trafford," was his famous comment

THE
ALAN
BALL
STORY

PART TWO



but, meanwhile, a telephone call to Manchester City manager, Malcolm Allison, proved Ball was doing the right thing.

"I rang Malcolm and can remember to this day his exact words," says Ball. "He told me: 'I will make you the best midfielder player in Europe, but for those wages you've been offered, sign for Arsenal.'"

"It was vintage Malcolm Allison and, in a way, I would have liked to work under him. He was the sort of person, as a manager and coach, who appealed to me. But really, the offer was too good from Arsenal to reject. Anyway, I'd made my mind up I wanted to sign for them.

"It is a fantastic club that looks after its players as well as any club do, here or in Europe. They treat their players with great respect, provide them with first class facilities, first class everything. It's the best for Arsenal."

But the glory days which Ball anticipated at Highbury, just never came. Arsenal had won the famous double only months before Ball's arrival in December, 1971, but that was to be the Londoners' last triumph for a lean, barren spell lasting until last season's F.A. Cup win against Manchester United.

Ball, sadly, had come to Arsenal at completely the wrong moment although he was not to know it at the time.

"It was five years of frustration and near-misses," he says. "Always we were in contention for the major honours only to just miss out. It happened time and time again and, even to this day, I do not know why we didn't win anything.

"I got into the fast lane when I joined Arsenal and started living in London. I loved the place and still do. Everything seemed to promise a great deal. Bertie Mee thought I was the missing link in what was

going to be a great Arsenal side.

"They'd just won the double and he felt my signature was the final piece to the jigsaw. We reached Wembley the first season I was there, but lost to Leeds in the F.A. Cup Final. We finished fifth in the League, only six points short of the Champions, Derby County."

Next season, success was even closer. Arsenal finished runners-up in the Championship to Liverpool, only three points away from the title. Then, they had the bitter bill of defeat at the hands of Second Division Sunderland in the F.A. Cup Semi-Finals at Hillsborough. And so it continued for Ball and Arsenal.

Gunners' Gloom

A poor season in 1973-74 which finished in a Fourth Round F.A. Cup defeat and tenth place in the League. 1974-75 was a dreadful season in the League, Arsenal finishing 16th, only four points above the relegation zone. And West Ham ended their F.A. Cup hopes with a 2-0 win in the Sixth Round.

The next season, 1975-76, was the last straw. Arsenal lost in the Third Round of the Cup to Wolves and finished a miserable 17th in the League. Ball's transfer on

December 22, 1976 was inevitable. Strangely, Ball moved on exactly five years to the day after he'd joined Arsenal with such high hopes.

"That lot put together hurt me," he says. "I really felt I'd get into the medals, the honours, the glory with Arsenal. Instead, nothing in five years — I was despondent. I desperately wanted to achieve something at Highbury and it was one of the worst 'downs' of my career."

Ball was on his way from Highbury almost as soon as Terry Neill arrived as manager. "I knew there was no way I was going to stay at the club," says Ball. "It was better for both of us that I should go because it was a different man who took over, compared to Bertie Mee.

"I felt Bobby Campbell should have got the job. He was a very good coach, I liked his ideas and he was a thinking man. But it didn't materialise and I was soon heading for Southampton."

Lawrie McMenemy got Ball for just £60,000 — but he got more than he bargained for in the little man. Next week, Ball will tell you why he was nasty, unpleasant to know... "and fighting everybody" at that time.

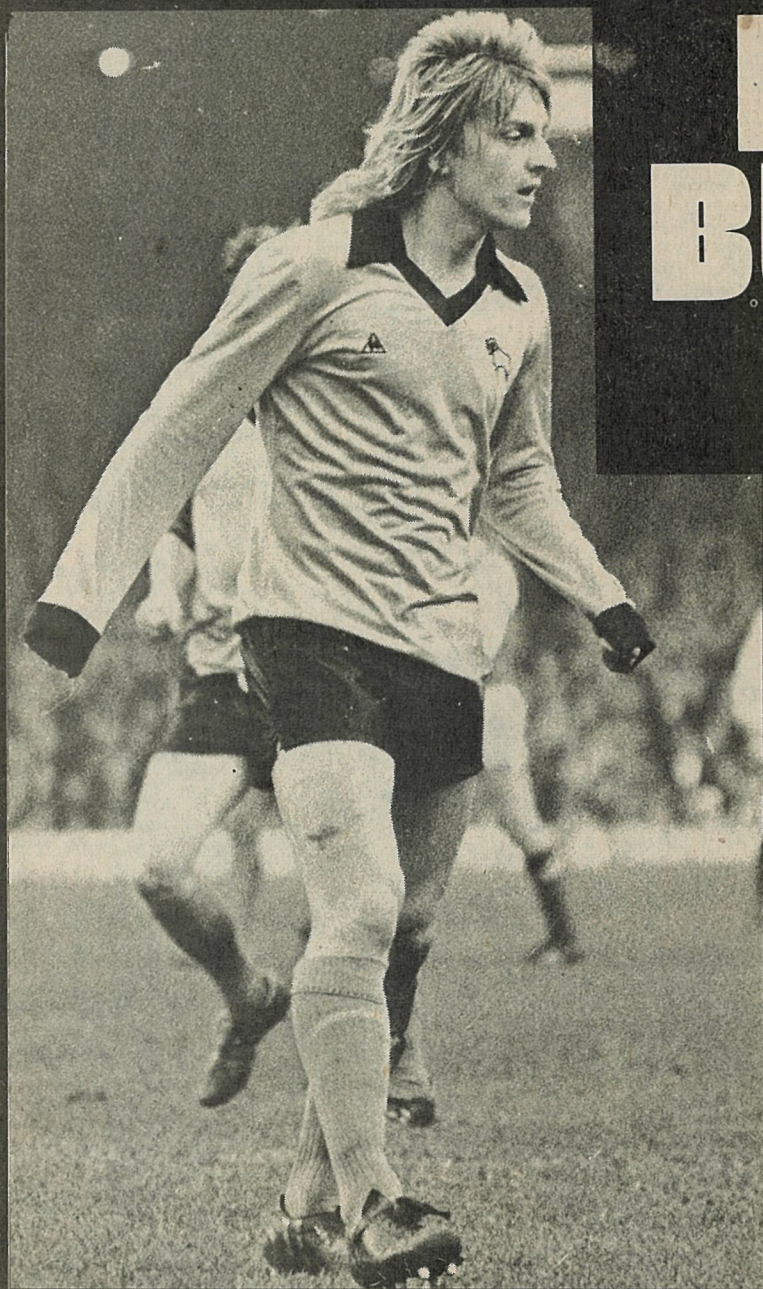
Everton capture the 1970 League Championship, but a move is in the tea-leaves for Ball.



Vic Helom (right) scores Sunderland's second goal in the 1973 F.A. Cup Semi-Final and Arsenal are on their way out.

Despite Derby's problems

BILEY IS BUBBLING AGAIN



WITH Derby County battling hard to avoid relegation, you might be forgiven for thinking that Alan Biley is regretting his decision to join the Midlands based club, in a £350,000 deal last January.

The spikey-haired striker has made no secret of the fact that he sees First Division football as vital to the progress of his own career. Yet here he is, seemingly on the verge of making a quick return to the Second Division, which is exactly where he came from, with Cambridge United.

In fact, you couldn't be further from the truth. "I couldn't be happier," insisted Alan. "The club have been battling against relegation virtually all season, but just lately we have been playing really well. We have probably left it too late to save ourselves, but I am particularly happy with my recent form and my partnership with new team-mate, Dave Swindlehurst, on loan from Crystal Palace.

"Everybody has written us off, so the pressure has not been so intense and we have played some really good football. Certainly we are better than any team in the Second Division.

"As a lad I used to idolise Manchester United. I still do, but I can honestly say that even if I'd gone to Old Trafford instead of coming here, I couldn't be happier than I am right now."

Alan's quite right, of course. Derby have been performing much better of late, and it's probably no coincidence that their upturn in fortunes and Alan's own return to the goal trail have come about at the same time. Biley is definitely bubbling at last.

"Obviously, I found it strange in the First Division, to begin with," he said. "But the manager, Colin Addison, and my team-mates have made things so easy for me, I couldn't have wished for more.

"I've lived for scoring goals ever

since I came into soccer, but even when I went five or six games after my move here without scoring, I wasn't worried. Some people put it down to the fact I'd become Derby's record signing, and I was letting the fee affect me. But I've never been a worrier, and I'm right back on the goalscoring trail now.

"I certainly didn't think of changing my particular style of play. After all, the boss had bought me because of my goalscoring record, and I'd achieved that through my mobility, sharpness and pace around the box. So there was no reason to alter.

"I have found that it's been necessary for me to come much deeper to accept the ball though, more than I was used to. And because I'm playing in the best League in the world now, I've got to brush up on my ball control.

"At Cambridge I was playing in front of around 6,000 people. That's not a lot, I know. But packed into their tiny ground, it created a smashing atmosphere.

"Here at Derby we've been getting around the 17,000 mark. Still not big by some standards. But even so, they've given us tremendous support. People who have been here a few years are saying

they sense the old feeling creeping back into the town. The kind of atmosphere that was generated a few years ago, when the team were riding high."

The 23-year-old has come a long way from the young striker who was handed a free transfer by his local club, Luton Town.

"I was always pretty single minded," said Alan. "I knew exactly what I wanted to be. A goalscorer. Nothing else. And when Luton showed me the door, it made me more determined to succeed. Since then, of course, I've learnt there was nothing personal in it. But even so, I'll always be grateful to Cambridge for giving me the chance to prove my point."

Interested

Derby's offer for the likeable Biley came right out of the blue. He was having a quiet drink at his local when Cambridge boss John Docherty phoned at 10.30 to say a club were interested in him.

"John asked me how I fancied Derby," recalled Alan. "I thought he was talking about the horse race, so I asked him who was running! It didn't dawn on me that he meant the club. Anyway, the next day I came up to meet Colin Addison, who straight away said he wanted to sign me by 5 o'clock that evening, so I'd be available for the game on Saturday. And I was so impressed with the place, I was only too happy to say 'yes'."

Those who've seen Alan play won't be surprised to learn that Denis Law is one of his great heroes. With his blond hair, and quick-silver finishing, he bears a striking, on-field resemblance to the former Scottish international.

"I admired several of the great goalscorers of the past," said Alan. "But for me, Denis really did have something special.

"I've always had my hair like this, but I admit to adopting his mannerism of pulling my cuffs down over my hands when I am playing. And I like to wear my shirt outside my shorts... something else Denis was recognised for.

"So all I'm left with now is trying to emulate Denis' remarkable goalscoring ability. And if I can get anywhere near that, then I'll be delighted."



Denis Law was Biley's hero when he played for Manchester United, and now the Derby striker is trying to emulate the former great.

MIKE England lives for Welsh football. Even during his last four years in the United States — from where he returns this week to take up the post of manager to the national teams — he stayed in week-by-week touch.

A friend sent him local newspapers containing all the results and background moves within the game; every trip home, he visited team-mates attached to the Welsh clubs and maintained personal contact with those he had played with.

Even during the last few weeks while winding-up his thriving American football and business interests, he has been making transatlantic telephone calls to stay up to date with results and form.

A rich £35,000 income from football and real estate deals in Seattle has been slashed by something like two-thirds . . . "But for the honour of managing Wales that hardly matters," says the 44-times capped centre-half and former Blackburn, Spurs and Cardiff ace.

"A lot has been made of so-called financial sacrifices — but it is nothing of the kind. Money is nice to have but it is no comparison to the job satisfaction that I will gain from managing my country.

'Horried'

"A lot of people do not realise that it is the second time I have turned my professional life inside out for the sake of being involved in the cause of Welsh football. When I joined Cardiff, it was the one and only time in my career in Britain that I stepped out of First Division football.

"They had just been relegated to the Third Division and I was horrified at the sight of a club that should be the pride of Welsh football languishing in such trouble. I met Jimmy Andrews who was manager at Ninian Park.

"He asked me 'How about coming down to join us and helping us get the club straight back into the Second?'. I was on the point of leaving Spurs and there were plenty of opportunities on offer — but this was the one I wanted."

England came in as captain, Cardiff rebounded immediately and climbed straight back next season. "That was one of my happiest years in football," reflects England.

He views the current state of Welsh football as very much a going concern. The first major

ENGLAND'S TARGET FOR WALES

target is to achieve something that has never been done before: qualifying for the World Cup Finals. Wales are drawn in a group of Russia, Czechoslovakia, Turkey and Iceland with two to eventually reach Spain in 1982.

Wales, of course, did play in the 1958 Finals in Sweden — but that place was only gained after they had been eliminated and then given a backdoor second chance

year. Mickey Thomas is playing marvellous football for Manchester United, David Giles is looking something special for Swansea while Brian Flynn keeps improving.

"Our problem in recent years has been in attack but here, too, we are breaking through. Robbie James is firmly established and has seven or eight years ahead — and watch this lad Ian Rush, who



Wales (dark shirts) have made sufficient progress to convince Mike England that they have a future in world soccer.

after some high-powered international wrangling. This time, England aims to see Wales there without any political intervention.

"In defence, we have no problems. Quite apart from those players still at the top of their form, look at the progress by youngsters like goalkeeper Martin Thomas at Bristol Rovers, George Berry at Wolves and Jeremy Charles at Swansea.

"Midfield has been the strength of Welsh football for year after

has just signed for Liverpool.

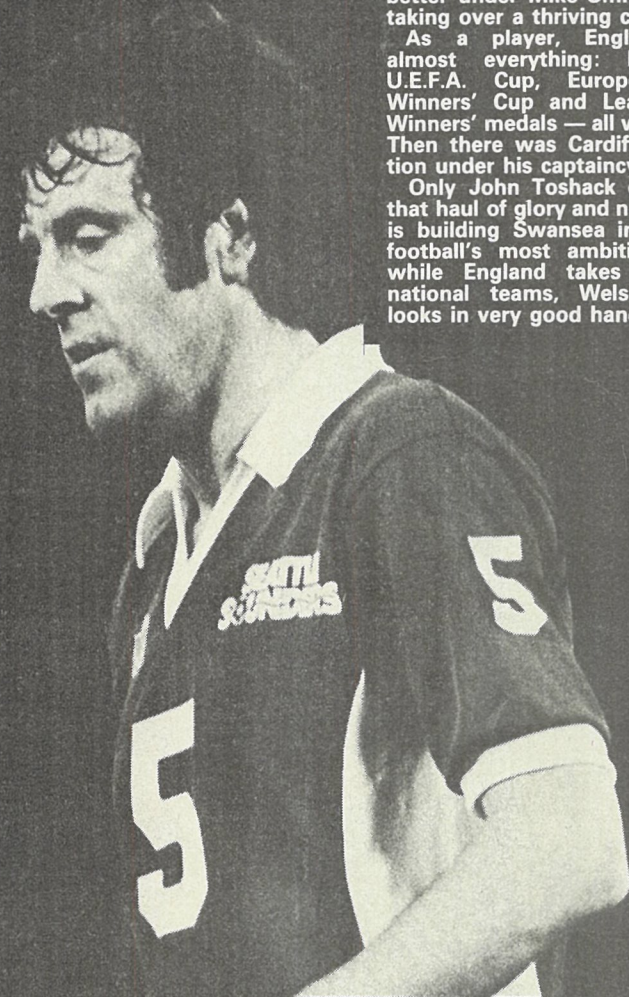
"Obviously, Ian is just starting out and has so much to learn — but he is going to be one for the future. Ian Walsh at Crystal Palace and Alan Curtis at Leeds are two more top quality attacking players succeeding at the highest level."

High among England's personal favourite memories is a 2-1 victory over the U.S.S.R. at Ninian Park in 1965. "That is what I'll want again this time — plus another one over there! We played tremendously that day and, time and again while I was playing, we proved that we could match the best.

"There was a 1-1 draw against the 1963 Hungarians, holding West Germany in 1968, taking a World Cup point off England at Wembley — and so many enthralling clashes against Scotland. In recent years, of course, Wales got better and better under Mike Smith and I'm taking over a thriving concern."

As a player, England won almost everything: F.A. Cup, U.E.F.A. Cup, European Cup-Winners' Cup and League Cup-Winners' medals — all with Spurs. Then there was Cardiff's promotion under his captaincy.

Only John Toshack can match that haul of glory and now that he is building Swansea into one of football's most ambitious clubs while England takes over the national teams, Welsh football looks in very good hands.



NEXT WEEK IN SHOOT!

- Who are the Champion Champions? Analysis of club performances in the four Divisions over a decade.
- Asa Hartford (right) says Everton should copy Liverpool.
- Who said "You're trying to get me the sack"? The answer is revealed in a feature on Managers Under Fire.
- Alan Ball's mistake, by Martin Peters.
- The Leicester City player who wants to oust England's Dave Watson.
- Howard Kendall on the great Blackburn Rovers revival.
- The rivalry between Morton stars Andy Ritchie and Bobby Thompson.
- European Championship — Kevin Keegan interview.





Wales will kick-off the 1980 British Championship with a new manager — Mike England — and a new strip, modelled here by Swansea player-manager John Toshack.

SHOOT!